FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 DECEMBER 1985

Further Developments After Rome, Vienna Shootings

Asked about the possibility of an Israeli action in Libya, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told Jerusalem television that he does not eliminate the possibility of an attack against terrorist targets "anywhere." The problem is not just that of Abu Nidal, he said, adding that Yasir 'Arafat is still the "main person responsible for terrorism." In other speculation about Israel's intentions, the Kuwaiti defense minister told *AL-SIYASAH* that Israel may use "unexpected" tactics in revenge for the airport shootings, according to KUNA.

Three Tunisian passports used by the terrorists were among the passports kept by the Libyan authorities after the recent expulsion of Tunisians from Libya, a Tunisian security spokesman disclosed at a press conference reported by Tunis radio. Tripoli radio carried a comment by JANA's political editor contending that Israel would not have dared to make "insolent" threats of retaliation were it not for the "effeminate" and "submissive" Arab rulers who "deplore the liquidation and death of any Zionist in order to please the enemy."

Syrian-Jordanian Summit

President Hafiz al-Asad and King Husayn held talks at Al-Asad's palace in Damascus 30 and 31 December, Damascus radio reported, noting that the discussions covered regional developments, joint Arab action, and bilateral relations.

Lebanon

As'ad al-Shaftari, head of the Lebanese Forces Security Services, narrowly escaped an assassination attempt in the Judaytat al-Matn area 31 December, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon disclosed. Meanwhile, Al-Jumayyil told university students in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio that the tripartite agreement is a "positive initiative," but he expressed concern over the "minimum level of consensus" in its favor.

In Tehran, the Foreign Policy Commission of the Iranian Majlis sharply criticized the Syrian-sponsored tripartite agreement in a declaration cited by IRNA. The declaration warned that any agreement with the Phalangists implies a halt in the fight against Israel and acceptance of peaceful coexistence with it. A Hizballah representative visiting Tehran likewise maintained that the agreement signed in Damascus will only serve U.S. interests, according to Tehran radio.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian warplanes bombed Iraqi troop concentrations north of Al-Sulaymaniyah and south of Al-'Amarah 30 December, the Iranian Joint Staff announced in a communique reported by IRNA. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio said Iranian planes killed or wounded 45 Iraqi civilians in attacks on residential areas, adding that Iran will be harshly punished and will pay a high price for this "crime". Iraqi planes raided Khark Island and hit another "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast later the same day, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA.

The Iranian agency also cited a Tehran press report that the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq will transfer its headquarters to Iraqi territory "liberated" by Iranian forces.

Sudan

The cabinet has approved amendments to the penal code aimed at removing violations and defects caused by the introduction of the 1983 Islamic code, the attorney general announced in a statement reported by SUNA. He said Islamic penalties will be retained for many offences pending further discussion of the definition and application of such penalties by a conference of Muslim theologians.

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Arab League Official on Ivory Coast-Israel Ties

GF262012 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Tunis, 26 Dec (WAKH) — Arab League Assistant Secretary-General for Political and International Affairs 'Adnan 'Umran affirmed that the Arab countries will hold meetings shortly to study the Ivory Coast's stated intention to restore diplomatic relations with Israel.

In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Tunisia Mr. 'Umran said "The Secretariat-General of the Arab League held contacts with Arab and African countries to discuss the step of the Ivory Coast which contradicts the joint Arab-African resolution to sever relations with Israel because of its occupation of Arab countries and its cooperation with the apartheid Pretoria regime."

He also pointed out that the Ivory Coast's resolution goes against the principles of the African liberation movement.

On the forthcoming meeting of the eighth Afro-Arab dialogue, due to be held in Damascus January 15 and 16 Mr. 'Umran said "this meeting is significant because it will come in difficult circumstances and at a time the Middle East and South Africa witness dangerous developments."

PLO Envoy in Cairo Blames Syria, Libya for Attacks

NC302234 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2205 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA) — Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim, PLO representative in Cairo, has declared that the Syrian and Libyan intelligence organizations are responsible for the attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports. He said that the two groups that carried out the operations left Damascus together for Beirut, and then split on their way to Europe.

In an interview that will appear in tomorrow's edition of the Cairo newspaper *AL-AHRAM*, 'Abd al-Rahim said that the two groups belong to Abu Nidal in name only, stressing that Abu Nidal is dead and that his name is being exploited for such operations.

The Palestinian official declared that the purpose of the two operations was to create problems between the PLO and its closest friends in Europe by trying to pin terrorism upon it, so that it will be rejected by the international community when the time comes to talk about peace in the future.

'Abd al-Rahim pointed out that the PLO rejects terrorist methods because they tarnish the image of the Palestinian people. He affirmed that this is not the organization's chosen course of struggle.

The Palestinian official said that the two operations sought to show that Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, is unable to control the Palestinians, particularly after the Cairo declaration.

'Abd al-Rahim revealed that it is the external branch of Syrian intelligence under the command of Brigadier General Muhammad al-Khuli that carries out these operations, in complete coordination with intelligence chief Hikmat al-Shihabi and with instructions from the highest authorities in the Syrian regime. The same applies to Libya, he said.

He pointed out that the Syrian Foreign Ministry issues diplomatic passports to the terrorists. Terrorism is an international problem, and it is the responsibility of the international community, and not just the PLO, to tackle this problem.

'Abd al-Rahim said that leaders and members of the PLO are the targets of terrorism just like anyone else, because this is consistent with the plan to destroy the PLO, liquidate its members, and prevent it from continuing its struggle.

PLO Official Says Contacts With Syria Underway

GF271752 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 26 Dec 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Riyadh — Direct contacts between the PLO and Syria are currently underway to put an end to the differences between them and to establish new relations based on mutual respect.

In a statement to *AL-YAWM*, Rafiq al-Natshah, PLO representative in Saudi Arabia, said that the contacts between the PLO and Syria are being held in secret and at high levels, contrary to reports indicating that the talks are being held at ordinary levels and that they are preliminary to higher level talks.

Abu Dhakir [Rafiq al-Natshah] stated that these talks, which are being held with the support and mediation of friends and brothers, are designed to turn a new leaf of fraternal relations between the PLO and Syria. He did not disclose who the mediators are.

Syria Closes Fatah 'Dissidents' Offices

GF271441 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 26 Dec 85 p 10

[Article by Ibrahim Rajab]

[Text] Palestinian sources have stated to *AL-WATAN* that 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim, an official of one of the factions of the Palestinian Liberation Front, left Damascus a few days ago following the closure of his office in Damascus by Syrian security officials. The Syrian authorities have also closed down the office of the Palestinian Communist Party-Provisional Command which is led by 'Arabi 'Awwad.

Ahmad Nijim, alias Abu al-'Ala', who is a member of the Central Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Front, led by Tal'at Ya'qub, had left Syria approximately 2 months ago and currently lives in Cyprus.

'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim and 'Arabi 'Awwad were among the staunchest supporters of the Fatah dissident movement and among the greatest opponents of 'Arafat demanding a change in the PLO leadership.

AL-WATAN's sources also stated that the Syrian leaders have invited Abu Salih, one of the most prominent leaders of the Fatah dissident movement to return to his previous position in the

dissident leadership, but he refused the offer and insisted on continuing his 1-year-old seclusion.

Salah Khalaf on Airport Attacks, Israel, Iraq

Expects Israeli Raid

AU301622 Vienna NEUE AZ in German 30 Dec 85 p 3

[Excerpt] Kuwait, Vienna — Will Israel use the attacks in Vienna and Rome as a pretext for another attack on the PLO? Aby Iyad [Salah Khalaf], PLO security chief, is expecting it. In an interview with *NEUE AZ* he also lists the most likely targets: Palestinian institutions in Yeman or Sudan. U.S. President Reagan has implored Israeli Prime Minister Peres to renounce retaliatory strikes.

Even in the days before the terror attacks against the two airports, the PLO had noted increased activities by Israeli reconnaissance planes over the Red Sea, Abu Iyad told us in a telephone conversation from Kuwait. The PLO, he repeated, denounces the acts of terror as strongly as possible. This is also because terrorist attacks are an attempt to disturb the good relations of the organization with Austria and Italy.

Asked about those responsible, Abu Iyad does not wish to commit himself. Behind these attacks he sees "groups of dissidents" who have not belonged to the PLO for a long time. "Arab states that further support and train such groups are making a serious mistake."

What states is he referring to? Abu Iyad does not dare go any further. It is no secret what country makes such acts of terror possible; it is no secret what states are fighting the PLO."

Abu Iyad does not wish to be more specific, but stresses that the PLO is ready to cooperate in clearing up the attacks. He hopes that Italy and Austria will make public all findings about the backers of the terrorists and "about those states which provide them with logistic support."

Attack Intended To 'Insult' PLO

GF301533 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 29 Dec 85 pp 24, 25

[Interview with Salah Khalaf, member of Fatah Central Committee, by Yahya Hamzah — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Hamzah]: What type of aggression do you expect Israel to attempt during the coming hours or days using the operations at Rome and Vienna airports as a pretext, especially since Israel was planning to continue its aggressive policy even before these operations took place?

[Khalaf]: There are many expectations, and the possibility of their occurring is very high, especially when we study and analyze the hostile Israeli nature and its premediated intention to strike at the PLO, and its leaders in particular.

I strongly suspect that Israel will attempt a number of aggressive operations at one time, and will boast about the strike and its aggressive long arm. We have found this to be typical of Zionist methods and styles of action and aggression.

It is not important that these operations should occur within 1 day and night since Israel has received information that we are alert to face any possibilities. However, these aggressive Israeli operations — should they take place — would not come very late, because Israel is keen to exploit the negative impact these operations have had on both European and international public opinion as a pretext to carry out a new aggression.

[Hamzah]: What is your analysis of the operations at the airports of Rome and Vienna? Were they intended to strike at the Israeli interests in Europe as part of the Palestinian national struggle, or were they aimed at other targets? What is your evaluation of the results in light of the current situation?

[Khalaf]: I cannot speak of the elements who carried out the operations apart from the group that plotted them. The elements belong to groups outside the organization and its legitimacy. They are mobilized in a special and rancorous way to make them do anything without grasping the main goals of those who plot for them.

I would like to say that the choice of the El Al check-in counter as a target does not justify the whole operation.

The goal of the one who planned the operation, financed it, trained the elements to carry it out, and gathered information for it is beyond the attack against El Al offices. His first goal is to insult the PLO by creating the image of not being able to rule the Palestinian arena. His second goal is to say that the political line of the organization is headed toward a deadlock and destined to failure and that there is no other way except terrorism. they consider terrorism to be armed struggle and revolutionary action, despite the fact that there is a big difference between them.

There is a third goal — to show that the country accomodating those elements, and not the PLO, is the center of influence, based on the fact that the PLO cannot prevent terrorism in the Palestinian arena, only the country that is host to such elements.

These direct goals may reveal others later, but whatever they are, the plan of this operation not only disgraces the Palestinians, but all Arabs, before the international community, particularly as part of the media campaign Israel is trying to launch and exploit. You can imagine how the Israeli media will describe this operation to convince the world that it is right when it strikes at the Palestinians and says that they are terrorists to justify its previous and future operations, not only against the Palestinians, but against the Arabs.

Israel immediately accused the PLO, particularly its leaders, of this operation, even before its dimensions were revealed. This is although the Israeli and U.S. intelligence organs know that the PLO had no connection with the operation. They also know exactly who carried out the operations and who was behind them. However, it is in Israel's favor to accuse the PLO and not the

known Arab countries that accomodate such groups and activate, finance, and train them.

It is about time the Arabs adopt a brave stance toward the issue of terrorism. I call for an Arab summit conference or an Arab foreign ministers' conference to make a decision on this issue. We must reveal to the world that there are Arab countries using Palestinian elements, even Arab elements, to implement plans of terrorism. I say Arab elements because such groups utilize Arab elements along with Palestinians.

We also call upon friendly countries, such as the Soviet Union and France, to adopt a brave stance and to separate the PLO from these terrorist operations. We ask them to point an accusing finger at the countries known to accomodate terrorism, which are trying to strike at the Palestinian issue, disgrace the PLO, and are trying to show that the PLO is unable to control the Palestinian arena.

Israel was quick to accuse the PLO of the recent operations, although it knew that the PLO had no involvement. Have they forgotten that such groups have killed PLO cadres, such as Sa'id Hamami in London, 'Isam Sartawi, Na'im Khudr, 'Ali Yasin, and others? These groups committed terrorist acts against the Palestinians before they did against others.

In condemning this suspected operation let us ask why they chose Italy and Austria in particular? Italy is a friendly country which has intimate relations with the PLO. Moreover, Craxi ignored all that happened during the *Achille Lauro* incident. After being selected prime minister, he re-emphasized the legitimacy of the armed struggle of the Palestinian people, thus defying Israeli Prime Minister Peres. he recent operation will provide the opportunity for Zionist elements and those who oppose Craxi, including Defense Minister Spadolini, to accuse the PLO and the Palestinian people of this massacre.

The same applies to Austria, whose ruling socialist party backs our just cause. Hence, the selection of Rome and Vienna was not a coincidence, but was designed to undermine Palestinian-Italian and Palestinian-Austrian relations as part of a plan to strike at the PLO as a whole.

[Hamzah] Concerning the recent operations in Rome and Vienna airports, do you have doubts concerning earlier reports that the operation was carried out by the Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] group?

[Khalaf] If it is not the doing of Abu Nidal, then it is the doing of the groups backing him stationed in some Arab capitals — Arab capitals which host Abu Nidal, his elements, and others — and known to all Arab countries and to the whole world.

[Hamzah] Are they the ones who hijacked the Egyptian plane to Malta?

[Khalaf] I cannot confirm that it was Abu Nidal in particular, but definitely the same elements and groups were involved. I am not concerned about whether or not these operations were carried out by Palestinian, Moroccan, or Egyptian elements. However, generally speaking, these operations represent a trend by some Arab regimes to strike at the PLO, the Palestinian people, and the Palestinian issue.

[Hamzah] Apart from the Abu Nidal group, are there any other groups that pursue the same type of operations?

[Khalaf] For example, it was proven that Abu Khalid al-'Amlah planned and organized the assassination of the late Fahd al-Qawasimi. Dissident groups are always politically and organizationally isolated. When they fail in their rebellion, they resort to such operations. What Abu Khalid did was an attempt at revolt against Fatah. He failed. He who fails politically and organizationally and who fails to achieve his goals resorts to seclusion and looks for an Arab source to host, finance, and then assign him to carry out certain tasks. These are tasks such as assassinations in the Palestinian arena in an attempt to frighten the leaders, or irresponsible operations abroad that insult the PLO and put it in a critical position. By so doing they think that they will foil the course of a settlement which, in my view, does not exist.

[Hamzah] Allow us, Abu Iyad, to speak honestly. You condemn such irresponsible operations and consider them a retreat from the Palestinian work. Yet you mentioned in the Cairo Declaration that you would call to account all who resort to terrorism. How will you act toward the recent operation?

[Khalaf] How can we call them to account when there are Arab countries that shelter, finance, and train them? Let the Arab countries give us the right to bring to task or try any Palestinian who has carried out an act against the organization's principles, and we will be able to do so.

What we meant in the Cairo Declaration is that we are responsible for calling to account the factions that are within the organizational framework of the PLO, its constitutional establishment, and its legal leadership.

We are also morally responsible for the others. We do not deny our responsibility for every Palestinian individual to the extent that Arab countries allow us. However, how can I practice my responsibility when I, as one of the PLO leaders, am forbidden to enter Libya or Syria? How do I bring Abu Khalid al-'Umlah to task when he is in Syria? How do I call "Abu Nidal" to account when he is in Libya?

[Hamzah] Let us go back to our basic subject. What do you demand from the Arabs since you have given them the responsibility of containing terrorism and preventing operations that you say harm the Palestinian people and the PLO?

[Khalaf] I want to ask if the Arabs recognize the Fatah and PLO dissident organizations? Are they ready to bear responsibility for what those organizations and groups are doing?

I would be very happy if, for example, Libya declared that it is responsible for the operations in the Rome and Vienna airports, or that it is responsible for the elements that allowed its territories to execute the operation.

Once again I say that I am not accusing Libya, but calling on every country to assume responsibility for the deeds of the

dissidents they shelter within their territories. Only then will the nightmare of terrorism, which we are wrongly accused of by the United States and Israel, be removed from the PLO and the Palestinian people.

[Hamzah] What is it that you demand from the Arabs now as an immediate measure?

[Khalaf] I demand an Arab summit to contain terrorism, particularly since terrorism is so pervasive. The Arab countries themselves suffer from terrorism from irresponsible elements. I truly congratulate Kuwait and consider it a brave country and government because it has refused to bargain for the convicts in the explosion cases.

Praises Iraqi Support

JN271757 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Paris, 27 Dec (INA) — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, also known Abu Iyad, has praised Iraq's firm pan-Arab stand toward the Palestine question. He said that Iraq's clear stand toward the Zionist aggression on Tunis and the PLO headquarters and toward the hijacking of the Egyptian plane expresses a principled Iraqi approach toward the Palestinian people's cause and their right to exist and to self-determination. He called for a unified Arab stand to end the Iraq-Iran war and to seriously pressure Iran to respond to ending the fighting against Iraq.

In a statement to *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* published here today, Khalaf described President Saddam Husayn's visit to the USSR as important in the history of Arab-Soviet relations. The circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing necessitated this visit. He added that the importance of President Saddam Husayn's recent visit to the Soviet capital lies in that it focused on the Middle East crisis in addition to the Iraq-Iran war.

Abu Iyad said that President Saddam Husayn's stands toward the Palestine question must be respected.

Abu Iyad stressed the importance of dialogue with Egypt due to its role in pan-Arab issues and in order to foil the Zionist-U.S. attempts to isolate this Arab country from the Arab nation.

He stressed that Palestinian-USSR relations are currently passing through a positive stage. He pointed out that the Soviet Government has extended an invitation to a PLO delegation to visit Moscow.

PLO Envoy to Amman Discusses Palestinian Issues

JN301225 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 Dec 85 p 13

[By Nabil 'Amr]

[Excerpts] Amman — Brigadier 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee member and PLO representative in Jordan, has expressed cautious optimism that 1986 will bring about positive steps toward achieving a just peace in the Middle East in a way that guarantees the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, particularly their right to self-determination and to establish a Palestinian state in their homeland.

Brig al-Yahya stressed the importance of Palestinian national unity as well as the need for determined struggle for the sake of achieving Arab solidarity. He said that the most important pillar of Palestinian action during 1985 was the heroic escalation of the Palestinian people's struggle inside the homeland against the ugliest forms of settlement colonization.

Brig al-Yahya reiterated the importance of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian movement in both the Arab and international arenas as well as the achievements realized by the 11 February 1985 agreement between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the PLO. This came in an exclusive statement Brig al-Yahya made to *AL-DUSTUR* correspondent on the occasion of the new year and the 21st anniversary of the outbreak of the armed Palestinian revolution in 1965.

Brig al-Yahya said that the Jordanian-Palestinian joint move succeeded in conveying a precise and clear picture of the principles of the Amman agreement and the Jordanian-Palestinian ideas regarding the future. This joint move left positive impressions on many of the world states which announced in various ways their support or adoption of this agreement.

Brig al-Yahya added that since the beginning of 1985, the Jordanian-Palestinian joint political move centered on the United States in an attempt to change its stand on the Palestine question and its intrasigent position toward the PLO. However, despite the efforts that were exerted in this regard, the U.S. Administration has so far not changed its stand. He said that it still insists on laying down conditions and obstacles regarding recognition of the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and still denies the national, legitmate right of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to self-determination.

He said: Perhaps this U.S. stand, which is strategically linked to the Zionist stand and completely biased in favor of the settlement occupation in Palestine, is the stumbling block to convening an international conference for peace in the Middle East under UN auspices. This conference is sought by the PLO and the Arab countries.

He added that while claiming to be combatting terrorism, the United States, the largest state in the world, has forgotten that the PLO, through its leader Yasir 'Arafat, has announced that it condemns and fights international terrorism. This came in the Cairo Declaration which refutes the Israeli calumnies and the Zionist deception and lies aimed at distorting the image the world has of the Palestinians. It also came to refute the U.S. allegation that the PLO is a terrorist organization. It is noteworthy that the Cairo Declaration was not expressing a new PLO policy regarding its hostile stand on international terrorism. He said that the declaration was only a manifestation of a policy that the organization has followed since its establishment.

Brig al-Yahya went on to say that the attempts by the United States and Israel to term the PLO as a terrorist organization were part of a coordinated plan to camouflage the Israeli terrorist acts

which aim at liquidating the leadership and weakening the organization. This is in preparation for liquidating the Palestine question and paralyzing the balanced Palestinian political movement which has placed the entire world before its responsibilities through its calls for convening an international conference for peace on the Middle East. The U.S. stand is aimed at justifying the U.S. non-recognition of the PLO as well as Israel's strike at the PLO's headquarters and attempt to assinate its leaders in the infamous raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis. This raid was aimed at assassinating the general commander of the Palestinian revolution forces and resulted in the killing of scores of innocent Palestinians and Tunisians.

Brig al-Yahya added: 1985 has witnessed a fierce political dispute between the Arab logic of peace and the U.S.-Israeli logic of occupation, expansion, and hegemony. The year 1985 is about to end while the conspiracy against the PLO continues. This conspiracy is aimed at distorting the world's image of the PLO in an attempt to associate it with terrorism. This is conducted through hostile mass media and rancorous propaganda campaigns which are aimed at associating the PLO with the terrorist acts that occurred in Italy and Austria. This is despite the fact that the organization has condemned these acts and announced its adherence to the Cairo Declaration. The PLO reaffirms that it will remain an organization that represents the reality, hopes, and suffering of the Palestinian people. It will lead the Palestinian struggle until the Palestinian people's national objectives are achieved.

He explained that the PLO, which represents the Palestinian people, who are still victims of terrorism, cannot be a terrorist organization. In fact, it is an organization for fighting terrorism and removing the injustice caused to the Palestinian people by the Zionist terrorist practices. The organizatio , in reality, is the biggest combater of terrorism in this area because it is fighting an occupation with special characteristics; a settlement occupation which is the ugliest type of occupation. He who is fighting this type of occupation is against terrorism in its fiercest forms. In its struggle, the organization is trying to uproot international terrorism.

Regarding the PLO stand toward recognition of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, Brig al-Yahya said that the organization has been subjected to various pressures to accept these resolutions. The PLO command discussed and studied these resolutions in several meetings. It specified its stand on them. I' 's still the same stand because no clear recognition of the Palestinian people's rights and of the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people has been made. Also, nothing has been decided regarding the convening of an international peace conference under UN auspices, attended by all the sides to the conflict including the PLO, and in the presence of the five permanent UN Security Council member-states headed by the Soviet Union and the United States.

He added that the PLO believes that Resolution 242 in its present form cannot alone be a sufficient basis for a real and just settlement in the future because it ignores everything that is Palestinian. It says nothing about the Palestinian question, land, or people. Therefore, the joint move between the PLO and Jordan, among other things, sought to explain this subject and find a suitable formula on whose basis an international conference for peace in the region can be convened.

Mahmoud 'Abbas Hails Nabulus Mayoral Appointment

JN280919 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 28 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] Amman (J.T.) — Mr. Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu Mazin), member of the Palestine Liberation Organistation (PLO) Executive Committee and head of the PLO national relations department, described the appointment of Mr. Zafir al-Masri as mayor of Nabulus as a wise and courageous step. Mr. Abu Mazin, commenting on the appointment of Mr. al-Masri, said that such a step, "which was taken at time when the Israeli occupation authorities are planning to Judaise all institutions and municipalities in the occupied territories, is designed to serve the interests of Nabulus inhabitants and to provide them with the necessary services."

PLO Radio Details Operations in 'Occupied Homeland'

27 Dec

JN271800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1646 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] A spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following: Operating on instructions given to it, one of our groups of fighters operating isnide the occupied homeland planted timed high-explosive charges in the settlement of Bat Yam, south of Yaffo. The explosion this morning killed or wounded several enemy elements and caused extensive damage at the scene. After carrying out their operation with complete success, our revolutionaries managed to withdraw safely. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The Zionist enemy military spokesman admitted this operation but, as usual, claimed that no casualities or damage was sustained. The spokesman added that the Zionist forces rushed to the scene of the operation and carried out an extensive search that included Rothschild Street, which was closed off and carefully searched to ensure that there were no other charges.

The Palestinian revolution forces general command announced that our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland managed to carry out more than 53 successful fedayeen operations against the Zionist enemy forces and installations in occupied Palestine since the beginning of this month. A spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command said in Tunis yesterday that these operations were carried out despite intense Zionist precautionary measures. The spokesman indicated that these operations fall within the framework of the Palestinian leadership's plan to escalate military operations against the Zionist enemy and its military installations.

28 Dec

JN281903 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] A spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

The Martyr Sa'd Sayil group lauched rockets at several Zionist enemy military targets in Upper Galilee at 2100 yesterday, scoring accurate hits and inflicting losses. The area was shelled, but the extent of the shelling has not been specified in view of the news blackout the enemy imposed on the area.

The spokesman for the Zionist army admitted the shelling this morning but, as usual, claimed that no damage was sustained Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command also made the following statement:

In accordance with the revolution command's instructions and directives to escalate military and popular operations in the occupied homeland against all of the enemy's vital and military targets, one of our groups operating inside the occupied homeland, in accordance with the plan set for it, planted explosive charges on one of the main Tel Aviv roads. As a result of the explosion, a military bus full of enemy soldiers was destroyed. All the enemy soldiers were killed or wounded. Our revolutionaries managed to leave the area of operations safely. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The Zionist enemy radio admitted the operation, but claimed that only one person was killed and 21 others were wounded when a vehicle overturned last Thursday evening.

29 Dec

JN291751 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1643 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

Despite Zionist security measures, our hero fighters carried out several successful military operations during the past 48 hours. The following are details of the operations:

1. Our hero revolutionaries used incendiary hand grenades to attack a Zionist military patrol north of the occupied city of Gaza this morning. Two military vehicles were burned to the ground and their passengers were wounded.

2. The group of Martyr Mu'tasim Hawwari Jamal attacked with incendiary bombs a Zionist military vehicle on the road to Al-Nusayrat camp south of Gaza at 0900 on 27 December. The vehicle was set on fire and several of its occupants were wounded.

3. One of our combat groups attacked with incendiary bombs a Zionist military bus carrying Zionist soldiers in the town of Yattah, near the city of Hebron, in the occupied West Bank yesterday. The bus was burned to the ground and a large number of enemy soldiers were wounded.

Zionist police, army forces, and so-called border guards immediately rushed to the operation areas, besieged them, and launched large-scale search campaigns for our hero revolutionaries, who returned safely to base. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

30 Dec

JN301819 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

One of our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland used a knife to stab a terrorist settler yesterday evening in the Bat Yam settlement south of Tel Aviv, in occupied Palestine, killing him instantly. Our heroic revolutionary managed to withdraw from the scene of the operation after successfully carrying out his task. It is a revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The enemy radio today admitted that a settler was killed at the hands of our revolutionaries. It said that the Zionist forces cordoned off the area, which is a parking lot for the Bat Yam settlement, and carried out an extensive search for our heroic revolutionary. However, their attemtps were in vain.

The Palestinian military spokesman has also stated the following: One of our fighter groups operating inside the occupied homeland attacked a Zionist bus carrying armed Zionist settlers yesterday at the junction of French Hill and the road leading to Ma'ale Adummim in occupied Jerusalem. The incendiary bomb burned the bus and killed or wounded all of its Zionist occupants. After successfully carrying out the attack, our revolutionaries withdrew safely to base. It is a revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The Zionist enemy radio admitted our revolutionaries' daring attack. It said that its forces cordoned off the area and arrested a number of Palestinian citizens who were near the scene of the operation.

Palestinian Group Attacks Enemy Vehicles

GF272002 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1820 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the general command of the Palestinian revolution forces has stated the following:

Our heros operating inside the occupied homeland have continued to escalate their heroic operations against the enemy's military targets. On 25 December 1985 they attacked two enemy vehicles in Jabaliya and Bani Suhaylah. The operations are as follows:

At 2315 on 25 December, as an enemy military vehicle passed along the eastern road leading to the village of Bani Suhaylah, our revolutionaries of the group of martyr Colonel Abu Hani attacked it with incendiary bombs. They damaged the vehicle and wounded its driver. Border guard and Zionist army forces besieged the operation area, began to search the surrounding groves, and arrested scores of citizens.

At 2150 on 25 December our revolutionaries of the group of martyr Col Abu Hani attacked an enemy military vehicle as it traveled along the road between Jabaliya camp and Bayt Lahia. Our revolutionaries used incendiary bombs in the attack. The explosion of one bomb inside the vehicle caused it to burn and wounded an undetermined number of enemy personnel. It is revolution until victory.

Revolutionary Shoots Intelligence Officer in Hebron

GF301941 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

Observation and large-scale reconnaissance were carried out by members of the group in charge of observing the activities of one of the enemy officers known for terrorizing and torturing our masses in Hebron. One of our revolutionaries from the Martyr Mur group at 1230 today opened fire on this intelligence officer, as he carried out surveillence activities in the main square in Hebron. Our revolutionary was able to wound him seriously, and then the officer was transferred to a hospital.

Although the region was cordoned off and all entrances to the town closed by the enemy forces in an attempt to catch the one in charge of the operation, all attempts failed and our revolutionary was able to return to his base safely.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives Lebanese President's Message

GF301723 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Manama, 30 Dec (WAKH) — H.H. the amir of Bahrain received a verbal message today from Lebanese President Amin al-Jamayyil dealing with bilateral relations and current Lebanese development.

The message was delivered by Lebanese Ambassador to Bahrain Abd al-Rahman al-Sulh during his meeting with h.h. today.

Following the meeting the Lebanese official said that he discussed with h.h. the amir of Bahrain Lebanese situation and the Syrian brokered pact signed between three Lebanese parties to end the 11 years civil war in Lebanon. The Lebanese official also hailed Bahrain continous support of Lebanon.

The meeting was attended by Crown Prince and acting Prime Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah al Khalifah and the Lebanese Consul to Bahrain Wa'il Salam.

Information Minister on GCC, USSR Relations

GF290811 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0640 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Al-Dammam, 29 Dec (WAKH) — Information Minister Tariq 'abd al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad has asserted that his country supports every meeting or call to achieve Arab solidarity as the ideal way to secure Arab interests and goals. He said that Arab summit meetings have a positive role if they are well planned and their resolutions and results are adhered to. In an interview with the Saudi newspaper *AL-YAWM* published today, the information minister emphasized that the GCC is not a bloc or axis, but an integral part of joint Arab action and a major element in supporting pan-Arab causes which are of interest to the sons to the Arab nation. The minister expressed confidence in the ability of "the sons of the region to defend their region against any aggression." He said that work is continuing to build the necessary intrinsic capability and provide the requirements which will enable the region to achieve this goal within the framework of coordination, cooperation, and integration among the military establishments in the GCC countries.

On the prospect of establishing diplomatic rleations between Bahrain and the USSR, the minister said that his country has good relations with the Soviets. He said both sides are seeking to promote these relations. He added that there is agreement among the GCC countries to continue efforts to make more friends all over the world. He pointed out that the trend among some GCC countries to establish diplomatic relations with the USSR is a correct one.

KUWAIT

Defense Minister on Israeli 'Surprise' Action

LD311119 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1016 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait 31 Dec (KUNA) — Defense Minister Shaykh Salim Sabah al-Salim, in a press statement published here today, believes that Israel might carry out an surprise military action following the attacks last Friday at Rome and Vienna airports. In an interview with the Kuwaiti *AL-SIYASAH* he pointed out that the Israeli revenge may take the form of a commando or military action, or any other kind of retaliation. Regarding the emergency measures which the Kuwaiti Defense Ministry has taken in expectation of any action which Israel may carry out against Kuwait, Shaykh Salim told the paper: We at the Defense Ministry are always alert, cautious and aware of what is going on around the area. Also, we take into account that Israel may carry out an action which may be far from what other militarists expect. The defense minister, speaking on the occasion of the graduation of the 13th group of recruited officers, briefed journalists yesterday on his expectations regarding Israel's reactions following the incidents at Rome and Vienna airports: That Israel creates excuses if it has none in order to perform its ferocity and aggression against civilian areas and peaceful villages. He concluded by saying that now, when Israel has been provide with an excuse, it is inevitable that Israle will carry out some action.

Foreign Minister on Syrian-Jordanian Summit

LD301448 Kuwait KUNA in English 1329 GMT 30 Dec 85

[By Salih Nazzal]

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 30 (KUNA) — Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said Monday that the summit meeting today in Damascus between King Husayn of Jordan and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is "an important and positive step" along the road to clearing the Arab atmosphere and restoring Arab solidarity.

He expressed pleasure over holding that meeting which came as a result of incessant efforts launched by the Arab Conciliation Committee and wished the two Arab leaders all success in the service of their countries and Arab causes.

The Kuwaiti chief diplomat noted, in a statement to KUNA and daily *AL-SIYASAH*, that the Arab Conciliation Committee was able to arrange such a meeting and to restore to normalcy Syrian-Jordanian relations in addition to bolstering Arab solidarity whcih the Arabs are in dire need of.

He said when that solidarity is attained in the correct and required manner, and the Arab stands and goals are united, they will win the world's respect and appreciation. Shaykh Sabah expressed hopes that the conciliation committee would realize similar steps along that road and accomplish its assignment.

The committee was formed at the extraordinary Arab summit conference in Casablanca, Morocco last August under chairmanship of Saudi Crown Prince Second Deputy Premier and Com-

mander of the National Guards Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Meanwhile, Shaykh Sabah welcomed the tripartite agreement signed in Damascus on Saturday between the three main Lebanese factions. He hoped that the agreement would last for the interest of Lebanon and unity of its people and lands.

"Kuwait blesses that agreement," the acting premier underlined and called upon Syria to continue its efforts to consolidate security and restore peace in Lebanon so that it would return strong, practice its normal and political role and re-affirm its Arab belonging.

Security Official Discusses Airport Security

GF281748 Manama WAKH in English 1644 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Dec (WAKH) — Chief of Security at Kuwait Airport, Brigadier Nasir al-'Uthman announced that Kuwait planned a security wall around the countrys international airport during the coming two months.

In a statement published by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* today, Brig. al-'Uthman said the planned wall will include a barbbed wire and patrols and electronic monitoring systems will be installed in the second phase of the plan.

Brig. al-'Uthman described security checking at Kuwait airport as normal and said passengers of all nationalities including arrivals and departures undergo the checking.

"Security at the airport was of a fine standard. However there are no measures that are a 100 percent guaranteed."

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi

GF291445 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz met today in his office at the royal court with Libyan Envoy Muhammad Abu al-Qasim al-Zuwayy who delivered to his majesty a message from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The meeting was attended by His Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, and Maulud Ramadan, Libyan charge d'affairs in the Kingdom.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

GF300818 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0730 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Riyadh, 30 Dec (SPA) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz arrived in Riyadh today. He was received at the airport by Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Chief of Protocol at the Foreign Ministry 'Isa al-Nuwaysir, and the Iraqi ambassador to the Kingdom, 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin.

Meets King Fahd

GF301048 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz today. The audience was attended by Foreign Minister his Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and Iraqi ambassador to the Kingdom 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin.

Seen Off by Foreign Minister

GF301745 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1550 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Riyadh, 30 Dec (SPA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left today following a short visit to the Kingdom which lasted several hours. During his visit he met with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Ambassador 'Isa al-Nuwaysir, director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, and Al-Malik al-Yasin, Iraqi ambassador to the Kingdom.

Bahraini Development Minister Arrives in Riyadh

GF291639 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1625 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Riyadh, 29 Dec (SPA) — Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, Bahraini development and industry minister, arrived in Riyadh this evening on a visit to the Kingdom. The Bahraini minister was received on arrival at King Khalid International Airport by Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, and 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abdallah al-Turki, under secretary of the Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Ministry.

UAE

Defense Minister Receives Sudanese Official

GF290957 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum received in his office today Lieutenant General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadul, deputy chairman of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council, who is visiting the UAE. During the meeting they reviewed relations between the UAE and Sudan in the field of military cooperation. Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum was also apprised of the latest development in Sudan and the efforts which the Sudanese Government is making to strengthen stability in the country.

Minister of State Returns from Tehran

GF301743 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Dec (WAKH) — United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah returned home from Tehran today after a three-day official visit at the invitation of Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

'Abdallah said he delivered a written message from UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i dealing with the latest developments in the Gulf region, Arab and international issues, Islamic causes and bilateral relations.

He has also held talks with Parliament Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi and Velayati on ways of easing tension in the region and cooperation among Moslem countries.

In a statement to WAM, the minister said during these talks agreement has been reached to continue consultations for the sake of finding a solution to the region's problems.

Velayati, who was at the airport to see the UAE minister off, said the talks dealt with ways of keeping the Gulf region away from foreign interference and issues relating to the region and the Islamic world as a whole.

He stressed the importance of continuing such contacts to achieve peace and stability in the region.

Defense Minister on GCC Military Strength

GF291120 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0710 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 29 Dec (PSA) — Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum, UAE minister of defense, has stated that the ambitions of the GCC countries in the military field consist of developing and training their armed forces, establishing a unified air defense system, building arms factories, and coordinating arms purchases by the member countries. In an interview published today by the newspaper *AL-YAWM*, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid asserted that the building up of Gulf power does not at all constitute a bloc formed against anyone or a regional force preoccupied with itself and fogetful of its Arab and Islamic nation. He said the Gulf forces are for the defense of Islam, rightfulness, and for the preservation of independent GCC political decisionmaking. The UAE defense minister pointed out that the GCC, with its political, military, and economic capabilities, is an integral part of the Arab nation that responds to its causes and ambitions. He emphasized that the capabilities and strength of the GCC countries constitute a basic driving force to build our intrinsic strength.

PDRY

Supreme Council Warns Israel Against Acts

GF290548 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Dec 85

["News and Comment" program by Ja'far 'Aydarus]

[Text] The Yemeni Supreme Council has warned the Zionist enemy of committing any aggressive act against either part of the Yemeni homeland. This warning came in the press communique released by the council during its session concluded in Sanaa on 26 December.

Various sources have confirmed that the Zionist enemy is preparing for an aggressive act against the two parts of the Yemeni homeland. In fact, warnings have been made many times in the Zionist press by Zionist government officials in occupied Palestine. In his preparation for aggression on the two parts of the Yemen, and with the cooperation of specific organs in the U.S. Administration and Zionist bourgeois communities in the United States and in other European countries, the Zionist enemy has created a false campaign about Yemeni Jews.

In addition to the fact that this constitutes a flagrant intervention in Yemeni internal affairs, this issue also is not in line with historical facts regarding the circumstances and conditions which the Yemeni Jews enjoy. Those Jews enjoy full rights like the Yemeni Muslims. Yemeni histroy is associated with respect for religions and antiapartheid movements. No great or dangerous conflict contrary to this main, deep, and human line has been recorded in history. Although Yemen has been through various phases of history as an advanced and strong country, the Yemeni Government has not gone beyond its borders and has not controlled or dominated any country or other parts outside its borders, contrary to the world's old and recent histories. Hence, there are deep roots in the history of the Yemeni people relating to hatred of racism and racial discrimination and to confrontation of imperialism and domination. This explains Yemen's stand toward the question of the Palestinian democratic state in which various religions live together, and toward resisting the Zionist policy and the Zionist entity, which is based on racism and racial discrimination, and on the expulsion of the Palestinian people — Muslims and Christians.

Ethnic or religious discrimination has not occured and will not occur on Yemeni soil, but it is occuring inside the Zionist entity, in South Africa, and in other imperialist countries. The Yemeni Jews, all the Jews in the rest of the Arab countries, and all the respected Jewish religious communities free of racism know the extent of the nonobjectivity and lack of morals in the talk on religious oppression of any form in Yemen. The Zionist enemy ignores all these historical, political, social, and spiritual facts about Yemen and is resorting now to a surprising libelous campaign which can only be explained as a preparation for aggression, and an attempt to terrorize the two parts of the homeland who are firmly standing by the Palestinian people and standing against the racist, aggressive, and expansionist Zionist entity.

The Yemeni Supreme Council warning to the Zionist entity against any aggression cannot be regarded as a bargaining tool for the Yemeni Jews. The Zionist entity and the imperialist and allied forces backing it must take this warning with extreme responsibility and seriousness. The history of the Zionist entity will not witness anything more dangerous than this misjudgement and adventure or show more disregard for this defensive and legitimate Yemeni warning.

Sudanese Communist Party Leader Departs

GF271337 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Brother Muhammad Ibrahim Nuqud, secretary general of the Sudanese Communist Party Central Committee, today left

Aden following a visit to the PDRY of several days, which he made in response to an invitation by the YSP Central Committee. In a statement to ANA, Brother Nuqud described his visit to the PDRY as successful and fruitful. He stated that he had new experiences and sensed a great deal of understanding, affection, and readiness for cooperation. He pointed out that during his visit he conveyed to the PDRY public opinion the fundamental facts of the Sudanese situation and observed concern for and interest in what is has happening in Sudan. He was seen off at the airport by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, and a number of officials at the Central Committee Secretariat.

YAR

Flights Near Islands Discussed With PDRY

GF290745 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0640 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 29 Dec (WAKH) — Informed Arab sources have said that President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and [PDRY leader] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad during their meeting in Sanaa last week discussed the means of providing sufficient protection for Kamaran and Mayyun [Perim] Islands at the entrance of the Strait of Bab al-Mandab which have become a major target which international parties are trying to control. The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today quotes these sources as saying that the suspicious flights recently monitored near Bab al-Mandab carried out surveillence operations of the two islands. The sources added that the strategic importance of these two islands which control the Strait of Bab al-Mandab has recently made them a target for espionage planes.

Official Yemeni sources have denied the presence of PLO forces on Kamaran Island, which has a population of 10,000 people, mainly fishermen. The sources said that PLO military bases are located in the mountains on the mainland. The sources said that Israel has expressed fears that the island will be used as a center for monitoring its activities in the Red Sea. The sources said that Israel has notified the United States of the great importance of the island in a region where international fleets are found.

Iraqi Foreign Ministers Arrives in Sanaa

GF301807 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Brother Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Sanaa today on a visit to our country during which he will hold talks with the brother officials on a number of issues of mutual concern. In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, the Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister expressed his happiness at visiting our country as (?the private envoy) of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. He stated that he would hold talks with officials on the developed relations between our country and Iraq. The talks will also deal with the current Arab situation, recent events on the Arab arena, and issues of mutual concern. He was welcomed by Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee; and envoy of the presidential protocol; [name indistinct], Iraqi ambassador in Sanaa; and a number of the embassy staff.

Supreme Council Holds Meeting in Sanaa 26 Dec

GF261315 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] The Yemeni Supreme Council held a meeting at the Presidential Palace in Sanaa today. The meeting was chaired by Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the southern part of our homeland.

Participating in the meeting [representing the YAR] were Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee; Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister and member of the Standing Committee; Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs, and member of the Standing Committee; Minister of Interior, Dr 'Abdallah Barakat; Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs; and Lieutenant Colonel Ghalib al-Qamish, head of the central organization for national security and member of the Standing Committee. [Representing the PDRY were] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bayd, member of the Political Bureau and minister of local government; Ahmad Musa'id Husayn, member of the Political Bureau and minister of state security; Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of unity affairs; and Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahim Bishr, deputy director of the office of the YSP Central Committee secretary general.

During the meeting, both sides completed discussing issues related to unified action and coordination and cooperation in various fields between the two parts of the homeland.

Issues Statement

GF261539 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Dec 85

["Text" of the press communique issued following the conclusion of the meeting of the Yemeni Supreme Council held in Sanaa on 24 to 26 December]

[Text] The Yemeni Supreme Council held a meeting in Sanaa on 24-26 December, chaired by Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress; and Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, with the participation of a number of officials from both parts of the homeland.

At the meeting a number of issues were reviewed pertaining to steps toward unity within the framework of efforts of officials

from both parts of the homeland to regain Yemeni unity and to enlarge the fields of coordination between them so as to achieve further integration in various fields in a way to unite Yemen. The council also reviewed the achievements of the joint committees over the previous period and the results of the work of the joint ministerial council during its recent third session in Sanaa.

The council expressed satisfaction at the positive results which contributed to unity construction. It affirmed that the serious dialogue, coordination, cooperation, and continuous consultation between the two parts of the Yemeni homeland are national options which coincide with the spirit of the immortal September and October Revolutions and their noble liberation goals, and also express the feelings of our struggling Yemeni people toward regaining their unity, which would increase their accomplishments and enhance their national efforts. To boost and solidify the unity steps through a spirit of honest brotherhood which stems from a belief in the national responsibilities, the council made a number of decisions and issued directives designed to achieve more accomplishments in all fields and widen the coordination and the exchange of visits at governmental and popular levels.

Concerning coordination and consultation on foreign policy between the two parts, the council reviewed the Arab and international developments, foremost being the Palestinian issue and the current challenges facing the Arab nation. Continuing the principled and firm stands of both parts, the council expressed anew support for the the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain all of their rights, including their rights to establish an independent state under the leadership of the PLO. In this regard, the council affirmed the importance of the unity of the PLO and the need to respect the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking, which expresses the aspirations of the Palestinian people. The council also expressed the need to reach a just, constant, and comprehensive solution for the Palestinian cause to guarantee the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people which must be within the framework of an international conference to be attended by all the concerned parties and include the participation of member countries of the UN Security Council.

Reviewing the developments of the Iraq-Iran war, the council expressed profound regret at its continuation. To avoid bloodshed between the two neighboring Muslim people, and to maintain their capabilities and powers, which have been greatly affected by the war, the council calls for a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Iran conflict.

Concerning the situation in Lebanon, the council expressed hope that the Lebanese people would manage to establish security and stability over their entire territory, to rebuild their homeland, and to preserve their national unity, independence, and sovereignty. The council hailed the Lebanese national resistance, which is confronting the Israeli aggression, affirming its denunciation of the continued Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon and stressing the need to adopt a serious international stance toward this aggression to force Israel to withdraw completely from all Lebanese territory.

Concerning the security measures adopted by Syria and Libya to protect their territories and their territorial waters, the council assails the tendentious and hostile U.S. campaign against fraternal Syria and Libya, because these security measures are part of their internal affairs and are matters related to their security and defense.

Concerning the tendentious Israeli aggression against Tunisian sovereignty and the raid on PLO headquarters in Tunis, while affirming its denunciation of this aggression, which represents the most horrible of aggressive zionist acts, the council appeals to the international community to end the Zionist methods, and the mockery of international laws and charters, and the human victimization.

Reviewing Zionist propaganda concerning YAR citizens who embrace the Jewish religion, casting doubts on their living conditions, while refuting the biased allegations, the council warns of hostile acts against both parts of the Yemeni homeland.

The council affirmed the importance of preserving the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean as regions of peace and security and free of all foreign bases.

Concerning the situation in the Horn of Africa, the council affirmed that the maintenance of the security and stability in this region is the sole responsibility of its countries, and that their conflicts must be peacefully solved.

The council expressed satisfaction for the results reached by the committees to clear the Arab atmosphere, which stem from the extraordinary Arab summit held in Casablanca last August, and the cooperation of all concerned parties. The council hopes for more positive results to serve the unity of the Arab rank, and hopes that the entire Arab nation would be able to confront hostile challenges.

Reviewing the international situation, the council reiterated its adherence to the nonaligned principles and policy in all international arenas. The council expressed optimism for the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva and hopes that it will lead to international detente that will maintain international security and peace, accomplish human goals, and hinder the militarization of space.

At the conclusion of its meeting, the council expressed complete satisfaction for the results of the meeting, affirming continuing efforts to achieve the unity of the Yemeni homeland, the goals of our splendid Yemeni people, their hopes, and aspirations.

Issued in Sanaa on 26 December 1985

Ghali Says Israeli Action Will Harm Peace Process

NC311314 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] In a statement to our correspondent commenting on reports that Israel is likely to retaliate for the attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports, Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has said that Egypt has strongly condemned both attacks, which constitute an obstacle to peace. He affirmed that should Israel embark on an action of revenge for the attacks, it will in fact be helping to halt the peace process, because violence and the violation of human laws and principles do not justify further violence and violations. He went on to say that all members of the international community should comply with the norms of behavior dictated by international law; otherwise, we will enter a vicious circle and the law of the jungle will prevail in the international community with all the grave consequences for security, peace, and stability.

Mitterrand Concludes Visit 30 December

NC301206 Cairo MENA in English 1150 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, Dec. 30 (MENA) — French President Francois Mitterrand left Cairo this afternoon at the end of his private few days' visit to Egypt during which he met with President Husni Mubarak. President Mitterrand has visited places of interest in Upper Egypt. He was seen off at the airport by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid.

Reportage on Visit by French Assembly Speaker

Discusses Relations With Lutfi

NC281630 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 28 Dec (MENA) — In his office today, Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi received French National Assembly Speaker Louis Mermaz and the delegation accompanying him, now on a visit to Egypt. Afterward, Dr Lutfi said that they discussed bilateral political, economic, and cultural relations.

Mr Mermaz noted that his country's position on Middle East peace agrees with Egypt's views in this regard. The French National Assembly speaker expressed his country's willingness to intensify France's role within the EEC to increase the market's aid to Egypt, particularly in wheat shipments. He also expressed his country's readiness to raise the number of doctoral scholarships for Egyptian students in France.

Confers With Mubarak

NC290827 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0810 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received French National Assembly Speaker Louis Mermaz at the Al-'Urubah Palace this morning. The meeting was also attended by Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, the People's Assembly speaker; Pierre Hunt, the French ambassador to Cairo; and Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-'Ilah, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee. The French National Assembly speaker and the parliamentary delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo last Thursday for talks on bolstering parliamentary relations between the two countries.

Views Mubarak Meeting

NC290951 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak received French National Assembly Speaker Louis Mermaz and his accompanying delegation this morning. The speaker of the French National Assembly later stated that he was pleased to have met with President Mubarak. The meeting, he added, had dealt with the close Egyptian-French relations. He pointed out that France appreciates Egypt's efforts to bring about peace in the Middle East. During the meeting, Speaker Mermaz emphasized that France and the other EC member-states support President Mubarak's endeavors in this respect.

Talks With 'Abd al-Majid

NC291527 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said that the Middle East region is now in urgent need of a comprehensive and lasting peace, so that the violence and terrorism that have swept the region recently may be eliminated. He said this during a meeting today with French National Assembly President Louis Mermaz, who is currently visiting Cairo. During the meeting, the two discussed bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them in all fields. The French National Assembly president expressed appreciation of Egypt's efforts to achieve a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. He also praised the developing Egyptian-French relations.

Meets Ghali

NC301014 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met today with Louis Mermaz, president of the French National Assembly, and his delegation representing the various French parties. During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations and cooperation and a number of international issues of common concern. Dr Ghali stated that he took the opportunity to praise the role and honest cooperation of friendly France in various fields. He also hailed France's position on the Middle East peace efforts. He said that France is not content with supporting these efforts but is also contributing effectively to serving peace, stability, justice, and human values.

Discusses Terrorism

NC302124 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1905 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA) — French National Assembly Speaker Louis Mermaz, who is currently visiting Cairo, declared at a press conference tonight that President Husni Mubarak will deliver an important political speech before the European Parlia-

ment in Strasbourg, France, during a visit that has been scheduled for 28 and 29 January. Asked his opinion of the terrorist actions that took place at the Rome and Vienna airports, Mermaz expressed confidence that the PLO could not have carried out such actions because it signed the Cairo Declaration, in which it condemned terrorism. He added that France condemned these terrorist actions, which hurt the world and humanity and prevent the achievement of peaceful solutions.

Regarding Israel's possible retaliation for these two actions, Mermaz stressed that he received information confirming that the Israeli leaders know very well that the PLO had nothing to do with these barbaric attacks. He stressed that President Mitterrand's government and the French Parliament oppose all forms of terrorism.

On the convocation of an international conference for peace in the Middle East, he said that this conference enjoys the support of both Egypt and France and that they are seeking to convince more countries of the soundness of the idea.

Asked about press reports that France will transport emigrating Soviet Jews, Mermaz said that France is committed to the Helsinki agreement, which stipulates the freedom of movement for individuals. He stressed that his country is following this problem with much interest and that it upholds human rights.

The French National Assembly speaker expressed his regret at the continuation of the Lebanese war, in light of the strong and deep relations between France and Lebanon. He also appealed to the kidnappers of the four French hostages in Beirut to release them, so that they can return to their families with the start of the new year.

Mermaz expressed disappointment with the continuation of the ugly Iraqi-Iranian war, which is threatening peace and security in the gulf.

Finally, on the talks he held with Egyptian officials and with President Mubarak, Mermaz said they dealt with present and future Egyptian-French relations in all fields, and with Egypt's role within the framework of French-speaking Africa.

Mubarak Meets French Minister of Youth

NC291006 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received Alain Calmat, the French minister of youth and sports, at the Al-'Urubah Palace this morning. Minister Calmat is currently on a visit to Egypt at the invitation of the Higher Council for Youth and Sports.

Mubarak Sends Congratulations to Romania's Ceausescu

NC291344 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent a congratulatory cable to Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, on the occasion of Romania's national day. In his message, President Mubarak said: On this happy occasion, I would like to express to Your Excellency our full appreciation for your sincere support for efforts to find a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. I also would like to express our profound gratitude for the close cooperation and friendship existing between our two friendly countries. Such a relationship only becomes stronger and more developed with the passage of time, and serves our mutual interests and the causes of international peace and security.

President Mubarak sent a similar cable to Didier Ratsiraka, president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, to mark the occasion of his country's national day celebrations.

King Husayn Telephones Mubarak 28 Dec

NC281930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1922 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 28 Dec (MENA) — King Husayn of Jordan telephoned President Husni Mubarak this evening. The two exchanged views on developments in the Middle East issue.

'Arafat's Political Adviser Ends 3-Day Visit

NC291910 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1853 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) — Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, left Cairo tonight en route to Amman, Jordan. A responsible Palestinian source said that Hani al-Hasan is scheduled to meet with Jordan's King Husayn before the latter's expected visit to Damascus. The Palestinian official held a number of meetings with officials here during his 3-day visit to Cairo.

'Source' Reacts to Kuwaiti Statement on Khatir

NC311025 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 31 Dec (MENA) — An Egyptian source has expressed surprise at the strange statement released by the Kuwaiti National Assembly regarding the verdict handed down against Egyptian soldier Sulayman Khatir. The Kuwaiti statement is interference in Egypt's domestic affairs and goes beyond the framework of the close relations between the two fraternal countries. The source states that the Arab Republic of Egypt appreciates the nature of the pressures that made the Kuwaiti National Assembly issue such a statement.

Ghali Comments on Tabah, Palestinian Issue

NC281734 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has affirmed that the Palestinian issue is the crux of the Middle East conflict and that peace and stability cannot be achieved in the area without a just and comprehensive settlement of this issue.

In this context, Dr Ghali told our radio correspondent that the Tabah problem must not be used to forestall progress on the Palestinian issue. He also stressed Egypt's firm commitment to peace and called upon Israel to abide by the letter and the spirit

of the peace accords, and to accept international arbitration as a means of settling the Tabah border dispute. The state minister added that Egypt is holding fast to its indisputable and well-known international borders.

Ghali Discusses Arab Rapprochement Efforts

GF280943 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has asserted that the recent visit of President Husni Mubarak to Muscat and his discussions with His Majesty Sultan Qabus of Oman during the celebrations of the 15th national day anniversary reintroduced Egyptian efforts to bring about Arab rapprochement. In an exclusive statement to *'UMAN*, he said that Egypt pays special attention to the Gulf region in its Arab foreign policy due to the quick and continuous political reactions there. He added that the Egyptian move toward this region during 1985 was characterized with quiet and realism as Egyptian diplomacy moved in the direction of ameliorating bilateral relations with all countries despite the lack of diplomatic relations with some Gulf countries.

On the situation in the Middle East, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs said that in the wake of aggressive Israeli raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis, Egyptian diplomacy intensified to motivate and reactivate the peace process. Moreover, it succeeded through its consultations with Jordan and the PLO to attain another positive step, represented in the Cairo Declaration, according to which the PLO committed itself to refraining from resorting to violence outside the occupied Arab territories.

Libyans Reportedly 'Rejected' Military Training

NC281840 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1755 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Paris, 28 Dec (MENA) — According to travelers arriving in Paris from Libya, disturbances recently took place at the industrial institute in the Libyan town of Al-Bayda'. The disturbances occurred after the students at the institute rejected the military training that the Libyan leaders have imposed on all of the Libyan people. According to the travelers, the students staged a demonstration and a mutiny. They attacked the military training officers, burning their cars and personal belongings. They burned some files and stole others. Moreover, they stole some weapons and ammunition that were stored at the institute for military training purposes. They also set fire to both military training installations and educational facilities at the institute.

The travelers say that the Libyan authorities used suppressive measures against the students and mutineers. Still, they were forced to cancel both military training and ordinary studies for the students at the institute for the time being. The travelers explain that this indicates that the Libyan people have rejected the compulsory military training that the authorities are imposing upon them. It also reflects the state of discontent in Libya, of which the events that occured at the industrial institute in Al-Bayda' are merely one aspect.

Statements, Communiques on Latest War Operations

Khark, 4 Camps Attacked 31 Dec

JN311216 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Dec (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes carried out five fierce raids on Khark Island and four Iranian military camps today, reaping destruction on enemy weapons and military hardware. The planes returned safely to base. An Iraqi military spokesman announced this to INA a short while ago and said that Khark Island, and the Baneh, Galdien, (Baswah), and (Mumis) military camps were pounded during the five raids carried out by Iraqi fighter planes.

The spokesman said that the first raid, on Khark Island, took place at 0933 today, during which the Iraqi planes pounded their targets and set them on fire. The spokesman added that the second raid, against the Baneh military camp, took place at 1102 today, and resulted in the destruction of enemy weapons and military hardware.

The spokesman said that the third raid, on the Galdian military camp, took place at 1110 today, wiping out the remnants, weapons, and military hardware in the camp. The fourth raid took place against the (Baswah) military camp at 1300 today, dismembering enemy remnants and setting fire to the hit targets. The fifth raid, also at 1300 against (Mumis) military camp, sowed death and destruction.

The spokesman stressed that this is further proof to the Iranian rulers that the only option available to them is the option of weapons and nothing else [sentence as received]. The spokesman warned that retaliation will be very quick and the punishment very harsh if Iraq's sovereignty or any of its citizens are harmed.

Khark, Sea Target Hit Late 30 Dec

JN310721 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0706 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Dec (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes carried out two raids on the Khark Island installations and a large maritime target near the Iranian coast last night. After carrying out their missions, our fighter planes safely returned to base. In a statement to INA late last night, a military spokesman said that the first raid, on the Khark Island installations, took place at 2320 yesterday, and that the targets hit were set on fire. The spokesman added that the second raid, against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, took place at the same time and accurate and effective hits were scored.

95 Combat Missions Flown 30 Dec

JN301740 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Communique No 2,068 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 December 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces occupy a high position in the conscience of our nation and people and are appreciated and admired by the noble people in the world because of their rare courage and high combat ability in defense of the values of freedom, progress, and peace.

The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. Squadrons of our powerful Air Force continued their daring raids on enemy remnants, equipment, and machinery in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah and the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. In 95 combat missions our planes scored direct hits, leaving flames and columns of smoke rising from their targets. After carrying out their missions with accuracy and high efficiency, our eagles returned safely to base. Praise be to God, the best of supporters.

2. One of our brave patrols in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris, while carrying out its duties in the no-man's-land, brought two rafts and some pieces of machinery and returned with them to its base.

3. Our artillery pounded enemy positions opposite our positions in the various operational sectors, scoring effective hits. Confirmed enemy losses were:

a. One ammunition dump and three vehicles were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

b. Three infantry positions were destroyed and one enemy soldier was killed in the central sector of the II Army Corps.

c. One heavy machinegun emplacement was destroyed and those manning it were killed in the VII Army Corps sector.

4. The forces of the tyrant clique shelled Mandali and Al-'Uzayr with long-range artillery.

5. In expression of the criminal Iranian regime's rancor against our people and peaceful citizens, two enemy planes raided the Karizah housing complex in the Chuwartah District at 1131 (90831 GMT) today. The raid killed 21 civilians, injured another 15 civilians, and destroyed 38 houses. At 1136 today, an enemy plane raided a residential area in the Maysan Governorate, killing three civilians and injuring six others.

We affirm to the base Iranian rulers that this crime will not go without harsh punishment, that they will pay a high price for it, and that they are well aware of what Iraq is capable of doing.

We seek God's mercy for our martyrs and we wish the injured a speedy recovery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 December 1985

Spokesman Denies Iranian Bombings

JN311222 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1155 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Dec (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman today denied that any Iranian planes succeeded in striking at Iraqi military concentrations. Commenting on the false Iranian

claims, the spokesman told INA that two Iranian planes tried to approach a populated area in the Raniyah District of northern Iraq. The spokesman added that the Iraqi ground resistance confronted the two planes and forced them to flee without being able to attain their objectives.

The spokesman said that in retaliation for their strikes against the residential areas in Al-Sulaymaniyah and Maysan Governorates yesterday, the Iraqi Air Force carried out hundreds of raids against Iranian forces today.

Saddam Husayn Chairs Cabinet Meeting 30 Dec
JN301209 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Dec (INA) — President Saddam Husayn chaired a meeting of the Council of Ministers this morning during which the 1986 state budget, the investment plan, and the foreign trade plan for 1986 were discussed.

Committees were formed for redrafting these plans in accordance with the president's directives and in light of discussions taking place during the meeting. The committees will present their recommendations shortly in preparation for the final approval of the plans.

The meeting was attended by RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and RCC members First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and Deputy Prime Minister Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, members of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command, director of the president's office, the ministers, and a number of officials.

Jordan Not Asking PLO for 242, 338 Recognition Now

GF271108 Doha QNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Amman, 27 Dec (QNA) — It has been learned here from official Jordanian sources that Jordan is not asking the PLO for a preconditional recognition of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The sources said such recognition would not be in the favor of the PLO or the joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation for dialogue with the United States within the preparations to hold an international conference for peace in the Middle East. The sources added that Jordan maintains its belief that in the first stage Palestinians should participate — and these Palestinians will be nominated by the PLO — with the Jordanian delegation for the dialogue with the U.S. side and that the PLO will participate at a later stage through a delegation that will directly represent it, after which the PLO will be recognized by the United States and then the PLO will announce recognition of the two resolutions. This means that this announcement will be concurrent and reciprocal.

The QNA correspondent in Amman reports that these official Jordanian sources affirmed that the basis on which the international conference should be held is the participation of all parties under an umbrella and that Resolutions 242 and 338 should be the basis of work in this conference with the possibility that some of its provisions will be amended so that "land in exchange for peace" and the inadmissibility of occupying others' lands by force will be the basis of this conference. The sources said the idea behind the participation of other Security Council members is to create a balance during the international conference. The Jordanian sources believe that despite an international conference and no matter how significant it is, a united Arab stand remains the basis. This is what Jordan is trying to achieve through its current political moves with Egypt, Iraq, Syria, and the PLO.

AL-RA'Y: Soviet Role in Peace Process Welcomed

JN280852 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 28 Dec 85 p 1

[Editorial: "The Soviet Role in the Peace Process"]

[Text] Soviet leader Gorbachev's assertion that 1986 will witness more Soviet efforts toward settling the Middle East issue, the Gulf war, the Afghan problem, and other issues calls for satisfaction. This means that the USSR is determined to play a direct role in achieving peace and stability in the region.

It is obvious that what Gorbachev has said constitutes a direct invitation to all concerned parties to cooperate with the Soviets to this end. Regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict, this invitation is, no doubt, a call on the United States to cooperate closely toward the achievement of this objective.

Therefore, it behooves U.S. policy to welcome the Soviet role open-heartedly and to abandon its old desire to monopolize the issue, a desire which aims at dominating the region and subjecting it to the U.S.-Israeli whim. Needless to say, this policy has been and still is opposed and resisted by all Arabs. In fact, it is the real reason behind the obstruction of the peace process and the serious dangers threatening this process.

We must also point out that the selfishness behind this very policy will not find the atmosphere which will enable it to continue, especially since the Arabs are regaining their power in the atmosphere of accord which is gradually gaining strength in the Arab arena. Furthermore, Soviet determination to play a real role in achieving the desired, just, comprehensive solution seems stronger now than at any time before.

In light of these developments, it behooves the United States to accept the call for an international conference to solve the issue and to realize that the continuation of its negative policy will not enable it to control the fate of the region. Peace is not a U.S. grant or an Israeli blackmail deal, but a basic right for the human beings in our region and a need felt by the international community. There can be no compromise on peace.

While we welcome the Soviet role in the peace process, we hope that the U.S. role will rise above collusion with the Israeli aggressors so the peace process will be crowned with success and the region will become an oasis for stability, security, and peace.

Iraqi Officials Visit, Discuss Oil Cooperation

JN281448 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1422 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Amman, 28 Dec (PETRA) — Dr Hisham al-Khatib, minister of energy and mineral wealth; 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Samirra'i, Iraqi oil minister under secretary; and his delegation today discussed oil cooperation between Jordan and Iraq and ways to expand it in the service of both countries. Dr Ibrahim Badran, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Wealth under secretary, attended the meeting.

The head of the Iraqi delegation hailed Jordan's stand under His Majesty King Husayn toward the Iraqi-Iranian war and toward confronting the Iranian aggression against fraternal Iraq. He pointed to the importance of exchanges of visits between the two fraternal countries on the highest level to bolster and strengthen their fraternal relationship.

In a statement to the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY-PETRA correspondent, he explained that the delegation's visit comes within the content of repeated meetings between officials of the Jordanian Ministry of Energy and Mineral Wealth and the Iraqi Oil Ministry aimed at expanding cooperation, particularly in the field of oil industries, oil exploration, and marketing of oil products and crude oil, in addition to exchanging views on a number of oil projects and the implementation of joint projects such as industrial and transportation companies by the establishments concerned in both countries.

The delegation arrived in Amman yesterday on a visit to Jordan that will last several days.

Papers Hail King Husayn-Al-Asad Summit

AL-DUSTUR on Historic Meeting

JN311050 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
31 Dec 85 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "The Historic Meeting and the Great Expectations"]

[Text] Amid great hopes that fill the hearts of million of Arab citizens in this Arab world, within a framework of sincere brotherhood and love, and with a high degree of responsibility at this historic stage, His Majesty King Husayn and his brother His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad began their summit meetings in Damascus yesterday. This summit is a basic pillar, at this critical stage of our Arab nation's history, for a new Arab dawn for which we and the Arab nation's sons have been waiting for a long time.

The great expectations directed toward this historic meeting spring from the deep awareness that the interests of the two fraternal peoples in Jordan and Syria lie in soldiarity and unity, not only because pan-Arab interests necessitate this, but also because all facts related to destiny, history, and geography confirm this. Moreover, our two fraternal countries which constitute the foundation of the comprehensive Arab structure and the effective pan-Arab strategy together are facing the same threats and a common enemy which threatens their existence, entity, and future generations. Therefore, cohesion and solidarity are necessary in the interest of the two peoples and the common pan-Arab cause.

While following the historic meeting in Damascus, all the Arabs are waiting for a new Arab era based on a common pan-Arab will that will unite Arab potential for a long confrontation with the enemy together with unlimited Arab determination to fight the occupiers and to liberate land, kinfolk, and holy places from the hateful occupation.

We pin great hopes on the summit meetings in Damascus because we realize the importance of the Jordanian and Syrian role in pan-Arab action, and also because we are aware of the two countries' vital role at this critical stage of the Arab nation's history. This summit gives hope to every Arab citizen in this Arab homeland. We are confident that Syria and Jordan have a sincere desire to cooperate in the interest of this nation. We are also confident that the two countries possess the ability to realize the objectives and aspirations that are shared by all Arabs from the Gulf to the ocean.

AL-RA'Y on Pan-Arab Future

JN310941 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
31 Dec 85 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "The Beginning of Pan-Arab Cohesion"]

[Text] The Syrian-Jordanian summit which began in Damascus yesterday is a practical translation of the awareness of the two countries and leaderships of the fact that Arab solidarity and closing ranks behind the common objectives constitute the only pan-Arab option for this nation. It also constitutes a practical translation of the Arab masses' awareness that the plot against their existence is no longer being hatched in secret, and that this plot deals arrogantly and indifferently with the Arab situation, land, and nation.

From this premise, the convocation of the Jordanian-Syrian summit, which was an objective desired by everyone, will create appropriate circumstances for a process of pan-Arab cohesion in the near future. This summit is the first step in this cohesion and will pave the way for an Arab summit where we can discuss our situation, the threats against us, as well as all that should be done. Those whose ambitions have prevented them from looking into the future have carried out aggressions and planned for more aggressions. They imagine that this homeland is open for everyone, that it is a heritage which has no owners, and that arrogant and evil forces can impose their hegemony over this homeland's destiny and potential and destroy its pan-Arab existence, identity, and cultural message.

The meeting of the two Arab leaders, King Husayn and Al-Asad, has come during a period that was about to be affected by hopelessness. It has also come while many enemies attempt to depict the Arab homeland as being fragmented and defeated, whose unity is hopeless, and whose awakening is impossible. This meeting gives the Arab masses great hopes that Arab differences and estrangement will end and that our capitals and leaders will assume their historic responsibility. The Arab existence and the pan-Arab future depend on the assumption and performance of this responsibility.

While awaiting the results of the Damascus summit, we will continue to have great expectations that the aspired objectives will be achieved in order to mobilize efforts, close ranks, and pave the way for this nation's awakening and victory over its enemies, the enemies of land, freedom, pan-Arab dignity, unity, and liberation.

AL-DUSTUR Praises Signing of Lebanese Agreement

JN290847 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
29 Dec 85 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "The Final End to the Lebanese Crisis"]

[Text] The signing of the agreement to end the Lebanese war which was concluded between the main warring Lebanese parties in Damascus yesterday is regarded as a final end to the crisis that protracted for nearly 11 years during which the Lebanese people paid a heavy price in life and property as a result of resorting to the rifle to settle the conflict which would not have been settled in this way. Undoubtedly, Syrian efforts in this regard are deeply appreciated by all the Lebanese citizens and welcomed by all the Arabs who have been pained at the continuing Lebanese bloodshed over the past years.

Thus, we regard what was achieved in Damascus yesterday as a major political achievement unprecedented in the course of this protracted crisis. This is because this achievement formed the basis for a happy end to the great pains which all the Lebanese citizens have long aspired to be rid of in order to regain their lost

security and continue the building of the homeland destroyed by internal conflicts and narrow-minded sectarian traditions. The agreement was aimed at ending above all Israeli interference in Lebanon's internal affairs — interference that has played a major role in deepening the Lebanese dilemma and leaving this fraternal country exposed to Israel's designs that are directed against all the Arab countries. Thus, we highly commend the signing of this agreement and all the arduous efforts which were exerted to achieve it because we regard it as a great gain not only for the Lebanese citizen, who was destroyed by the war and was denied his simplest right to live in peace, but also for every Arab citizen, who followed with great pain and sorrow the continuing shedding of Lebanese blood and the fragmentation of the Lebanese entity itself.

While we hope that the signing of the agreement will be accompanied by the immediate removal of the effects of the long bloody war, we aspire to see all the sincere Lebanese citizens join hands in implementing the agreement to rescue the fraternal country, especially since this agreement constitutes the only way to rid Lebanon of its bloody crisis, toward salvation, restoring the unity of land, people, and entity, and building a united, democratic, nationalist, Arab Lebanon.

Deputy Prime Minister al-Majali Returns From Tunis

JN271852 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpt] 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, deputy prime minister and minister of education, returned to Amman today from Tunis after participating in the eighth session of the general congress of the Arab educational, cultural, and scientific organization.

Islamic Jihad Vows Further Action Against U.S., Turkey
NC310916 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] The Islamic Jihad organization issued a statement today in which it threatened to carry out further suicide operations against U.S. and Israeli interests throughout the world. The organization said that it considers Turkey to have become a tool for the implementation of the policy of Washington and Tel Aviv in the Middle East. Because of this, the organization will carry out operations against Turkish Embassies in various Arab and European countries.

Presidential Motorcade Comes Under Gunfire
NC311205 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1150 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Finance Minister Camille Sham'un paid an urgent visit to President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil at the B'abda Presidential Palace this morning to reassure himself, after a presidential motorcade came under bursts of gunfire on the Al-Zalqah highway. President al-Jumayyil, however, was not riding in the motorcade. It has been learned that two cars were hit. Also, the president's private car was hit and two of his aides are missing. [as heard]

Attempted Assassination of Lebanese Forces Leader
NC311040 Paris AFP in English 1031 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Beirut, Dec 31 (AFP) — As'ad al-Shaftari, a Christian militia chief who negotiated the Syrian-sponsored peace accord for Lebanon signed Saturday in Damascus, was the target of an unsuccessful assassination attempt in a North Beirut suburb today, a Christian militia source said here.

It was not immediately known whether Mr al-Shaftari, who was head of the Lebanese Forces' intelligence services, was wounded in the attack which took place in Christian-dominated Zahlah at 10:15 a.m. (0815 GMT).

Mr Al-Shaftari had led negotiations for the Lebanese Forces [LF], a coalition of Christian militia, at the talks in Damascus.

The head of the Lebanese Forces, Elie Hubayqah, was one of the signatories of the peace accord. The others were Druze leader Walid Junblatt and Shia Moslem leader Nabih Birri.

Police closed off the motorway that leads from the area, and residents said that automatic gunfire was continuing at noon.

Clashes had broken out earlier today between rival Christian factions in the Nahr al-Mawt sector at the northern entrance to Beirut, journalists there said.

A Lebanese Forces Source said that LF militiamen had clashed with supporters of Lebanese President Amin Jumayyil, who is said to be opposed to the Damascus accord.

Under the agreement, the president's prerogatives are to be cut back, and power-sharing which previously had been in favour of the Christian minority is to be changed in favour of the Moslem community.

The presidency had previously been reserved for a Christian Maronite, while the prime minister was traditionally a Sunni Moslem and the speaker of parliament a Shiite.

One Killed
NC311116 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] As'ad al-Shaftari, member of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee and head of the Lebanese Forces national security services, escaped an assassination attempt at 1000 today. The attack was made from an armed ambush in the Judaydat al-Matn area at the junction with Nahr al-Mawt. Rockets were fired at Al-Shaftari's car. Two rockets hit the rear of the car.

As a result of the incident, one of Al-Shaftari's companions, Ibrahim Jubayli, was martyred and another was seriously injured.

The attempt was followed by a clash between Al-Shaftari's bodyguards and the attackers, in which a number of the latter were wounded.

Birri Orders Amal To 'Fully Observe' Cease-Fire
NC301459 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction, has asked Ahmad Ba'labakki, Amal's representative on the Security Committee, to issue a circular to Amal Movement members instructing them to fully observe a complete and final cease-fire along the demarcation lines and not to respond to any shooting. Violators of this order will be subject to disciplinary action.

Minister Birri, who returned from Damascus yesterday, expressed his satisfaction today with the current situation in the country following the signing of the tripartite agreement.

Al-Jumayyil 'Hopeful' on Tripartite Agreement
NC302051 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1908 GMT 30 Dec 85

["Open meeting" between Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and various Lebanese university students, held at the Bikfayya Palace in Beirut; student questioners unidentified — live]

[Excerpts] [Al-Jumayyil] Welcome. I am glad to meet with you, students from the Lebanese universities, today. You come from various areas of our country with both ideas and questions. I also wanted to meet you so that I could ask you some questions. I know that there are not many forums in which you may express your ideas. There are several reasons for this, but now is not the time

to dicuss them. This is an opportunity for you to open your hearts today, so that we can talk and discuss our concerns together. I hope that you will take me into your confidence.

[Question] Mr President, we would like to know the regime's position on the tripartite agreement that was recently signed, and the state's role in it. Does silence on the part of the state mean implicit approval of this agreement?

[Al-Jumayyil] The tripartite agreement is a very important step in the peace process in Lebanon. We consider this step — which stresses principles and is the starting point for a very important reconciliation among major parties in the Lebanese arena — to be something upon which we must depend, and we encourage this initiative.

Of course, Syria played a principal role in arranging this reconciliation. President al-Asad himself exerted efforts for which we are thankful. We regard the agreement as a basic approach to the Lebanese peace process.

This agreement deals with several issues. It deals first with constitutional reform. It also deals with some general reforms. It deals with bilateral relations with Syria. It also deals with ways of ending the state of war. This agreement includes about four articles, which are very important and require study and examination. The initiative is positive. We must take it into consideration and further pursue it, in the interests of the homeland.

[Question] What specifically would the regime say about this agreement?

[Al-Jumayyil] The regime's concern is that any agreement should enjoy near concensus. There is no concensus. We cannot say that there is absolute concensus. There is a minimum level of concensus or near concensus.

[Question] Mr President, if peace occurs as a result of the agreement that was signed on Saturday, what guarantees would there be for our generation and future generations? What guarantee would we have to ensure that war will not break out again, perhaps with even more violence and causing more destruction than in the past 11 years?

[Al-Jumayyil] This is the history of all countries. There is no absolute state of peace. There are ups and downs in every country. Peace is not something static, particularly in Lebanon. Does anyone expect me to tell him that the state of war will end and we will enjoy final peace? This is [words indistinct]. We have a troubled state in Lebanon. We live in an atmosphere of war. We are trying hard to stop the war and to restore stability and peace in our country and among our people. We must overcome this stage. We must continue our work to consolidate the reality that is called peace. We cannot simply say that we will achieve peace in 1986, the year of peace. This is not [word indistinct]. We hope that we will reach a kind of stability in 1986. This stability would enable us to embark upon continuous and unending work for peace. It is like perfection. One aspires to perfection, but cannot attain it. We aspire to peace, but peace requires continuous daily work so that we can enjoy a certain state of affairs that is as close as possible to genuine peace.

At this point, I would like to assure you that my first priority is the reconciliation of the Lebanese people — reconcilation of the Lebanese people with each other; reconciliation of the Lebanese people with their homeland, their state, and their neighbors. There is no point in talking about the south and the solution of the problem of the south if there are groups fighting each other at home. There is no point in grappling with the high cost of living when some still regard this country as a quasi-state and not as a [word indistinct] country. There is no point in talking about the problems of our youth and our university students if their main preoccupation for the future is the [word indistinct] cause; that is, a country without the prerequisites of existence and without [word indistinct].

Some ask if I am an optimist or a pessimist. The Lebanese people are wondering even now whether to feel optimistic or pessimistic. Speaking for myself, I am neither pessimistic nor optimistic. We are determined. I am determined that we should save this country. A new year will soon begin, and with it there are hopeful signs of a solution, indications of true reconciliation, of salvation, and of peace.

Paqraduni Says Agreement Has 'Good, Bad Points'

NC301736 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Interview with Karim Paqraduni, chief of the Political and Information Department of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, by an unidentified reporter on 30 December; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Karim, it is known that you are opposed to the Damascus tripartite agreement. Why were you present in the Lebanese Forces delegation when it was signed?

[Paqraduni] No one objects to the principle of an agreement among the Amal Movement, the Lebanese Forces, and the Progressive Socialist Party. Neither does anyone object to the principle involved in reaching an understanding with Syria. Our objection was to certain items included in the agreement. It is true that I objected to some portions of the agreement when it was discussed by the Lebanese Forces. This demonstrates that we in the Lebanese Forces have a democratic decisionmaking process. I went to Damascus to prove something else, too, which is that our decisions in the Lebanese Forces are unified. Let us be very frank — the unity of Lebanon means that of Muslims and Christians, but the unity of Christians means the unity of the Lebanese Forces. On this basis, my opposition served to affirm the democracy of decisionmaking in the Lebanese Forces, while my presence in Damascus served to affirm the unified decisions of those same forces.

[Question] How do you evaluate the agreement, in light of your presence at its signing?

[Paqraduni] I want to be neither optimistic nor pessimistic about the agreement. It would be optimistic of me to say that it is full

of advantages, while it would be pessimistic to say that it is full of disadvantages. I am a firm believer in reality. The agreement has both good and bad points. The worst thing about it would be its lack of implementation, and the worst thing about its implementation would be if it were to deal a blow to the Christian ranks. I want to be very clear. No matter how good its basic merits, any agreement that divides the Christians is bad. Further, no matter how bad it may be, any agreement that unites the Christians is good.

The main and basic merit of this agreement is the idea that we must end the state of war, changing the name of the game in Lebanon from one of war to one of peace, or moving from a state of war to the cessation of war. To make myself clear on this point, I would say that this agreement was improved by two major amendments introduced therein. The first was that the agreement will be put in force in accordance with constitutional principles. It will be adopted by a government and will then be referred to a Chamber of Deputies for endorsement. The second amendment of importance is that the abolition of sectarianism will begin only after the Lebanese evacuees have returned to their homes. On this basis, I believe, this agrement has become a fact, albeit with some disadvantages that need to be alleviated and some merits that need to be increased.

I also want to make one major point: This agreement is a settlement based on the principle of neither victor nor vanquished. This means that I cannot consider it a Christian victory. However, it is equally untrue that it is a Christian defeat. As with all settlements, everyone believes that something is missing, no one feels completely satisfied, but all believe that the necessary minimum has been secured.

[Question] What steps are expected following its signing?

[Paqraduni] There are two important issues. The first is that we must improve the security situation, stabilize the truce, and move on to a permanent state of security that cannot be violated. I repeat: We must improve the security situation, and move on to a genuine truce. In so doing, it is our hope that the economic and social situation will also be improved. The second thing is that we must create a government that can take charge of the process of transition from war to peace.

Islamic Grouping Sees Hope in Agreement
NC301814 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The Islamic Grouping held an extraordinary meeting today under His Eminence Mufti Hasan Khalid. The participants discussed the current situation and the latest developments in light of the signing of the tripartite agreement, and the widespread positive responses thereto. In a statement issued following the meeting, the grouping said: Pending further discussion of details of the agreement in future sessions, the grouping believes that the agreement has been welcomed by all citizens, and that it provides true hope that the state of war will be ended.

Clashes on Mountain, Tension in South Noted
NC301542 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] It is not yet completely quiet on the Suq al-Gharb front. Medium- and heavy-caliber machinegun exchanges took place across the combat lines there today. In addition, five shells were fired on the military positions in Suq al-Gharb from the western side of 'Alayh. Meanwhile, tension prevails in the southern areas of Kafr Falus and 'Ayn al-Mir following clashes this morning between the army of southern Lebanon and the Palestinians and their allies.

'Intense Fighting' Reported East of Sidon
NC301718 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpts] According to reports received this evening, there has been a fierce military escalation on the Kafr Falus -Lib'a-'Ayn Al-Mir line in the south. Intense fighting is taking place on this line between the Army of Southern Lebanon and the extremist Islamic organizations, involving the use of heavy- and medium-caliber weapons. Shells have reportedly fallen in areas adjacent to this line, as well as in Sidon. Meanwhile, a security report from Sidon says that the Progressive Socialist Party has closed its main center in the city, handing it over to the popular Nasirite organization.

Further on King Husayn-Al-Asad Summit Meetings

King, Al-Asad Hold Closed Meeting

JN301652 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad and King Husayn held a closed meeting at the Presidential Palace in Damascus at 1630 today. Talks revolved around the situation and developments in the region, joint Arab action, and relations between the two friendly countries.

President Hafiz al-Asad received His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, upon his arrival in Damascus at 1200 today on a visit to Syria.

Al-Asad Hosts Banquet

JN301947 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad gave a banquet in Al-Dimashqiyah Hall this evening in honor of King Husayn ibn Talal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. It was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awadah, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, and members of the Jordanian delegation.

It was also attended by Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zahayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the prime minister's deputies, the ministers, the deputy ministers, members of the diplomatic corps, a number of senior officials, and the heads of information institutions.

Hold Second Closed Meeting

JN310924 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan held a closed meeting at the Presidential Palace in Damascus at 1015 today. During this meeting they resumed their discussion of the topics dealt with in their first closed meeting yesterday evening.

Prime Ministers Confer

JN301904 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1835 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Damascus, 30 Dec (SANA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i at 1730 today. The meeting was attended by Jordanian Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs, and 'Abd al-Mu'im Hamawi, joined the meeting later.

The two sides discussed developments in the region and a number of political issues of mutual interest. Regarding promoting bilateral relations, the two sides discussed what has been achieved in terms of continuous steps to bolster and expand cooperation between the two fraternal countries in all fields.

Al-Ahmar Receives Soviet Ambassador, Invitation

JN301439 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Damascus, 30 Dec (SANA) — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received here today Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Felix Fedotov. During the meeting they exchanged cordial talks on cooperation and friendship between the Ba'th Party and the CPSU. Fedotov handed an invitation to Comrade al-Ahmar from the CPSU Central Committee to take part in the work of the CPSU 27th Congress being held in Moscow on 25 February.

TISHRIN on Israel's 'Twisted' Security Logic

JN280841 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 28 Dec 85

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial titled "Legitimate Right," *TISHRIN* says: Those who have been following the so-called Syrian missile crisis and the hysterical campaign of threats which Israel and the United States unleashed in this regard and which reached the extent of open and direct threats of mounting an aggression against Syria, will easily see to what extent Israel exceeded general logic and simple principles of international law and the UN Charter and to what extent Israel tried to impose its own aggressive logic, which embodies its expansionist interests and presents them to the world as unchanging facts which must be faced. Israel wants to reformulate international law in accordance with its aggressive and expansionist aims so that its interests become legitimate international laws. It is a strange, twisted logic.

In its applied form, the concept of security is alien to security; it transcends all limits and the security of all others. It means violating Arabs, their airspace, and their sanctities and preventing them from even protesting. At a certain stage, the protest itself encroaches on Israel's security. In the final analysis, Israel's security means reorganizing the Arab homeland in accordance with its desires, security, and domination without blame or protest from anyone and without allowing anyone to raise his hands in protest, as President Hafiz al-Asad said in his historical speech at the New Delhi nonaligned summit conference. If an Arab tries to defend himself by any legitimate means, particularly if he tries to acquire arms to protect his people, land, and children, this will be a grave threat to Israeli security.

Having reviewed the dimensions of the aggressive Zionist-U.S. logic, *TISHRIN* says: Do the United States and Israel believe that such a situation can go on? Do they believe that the Zionist violations against the Arab homeland could continue? Undoubtedly, they are mistaken if they believe that Syria will succumb to such provocations because the issue is deeper and much more complicated. Briefly, it is a struggle between two strategies which are diametrically opposed to each other to the

extent of elimination. This alleged Israeli security cannot continue to be at the expense of the security of Arabs, particularly that of Syria.

In order not to let others fall into deadly errors, it is useful to say that the time when Israel would bully Arabs is over. Prevalent concepts of security must change because they conflict with international law and UN legitimacy. Within this framework, Syria reiterates its legitimate right to defend its security and Armed Forces by all necessary means and in all areas where these Armed Forces are stationed within the noble Syrian mission which the Arab nation has asked it to carry out.

Let the enemies take warning because the entire Arab nation stands behind Syria in its firm position and because Syria is defending the security and dignity of the entire Arab nation. Syria's security is an integral part of pan-Arab security and is the main pillar of this security at this stage.

Peres Urges International Action Against Libya
TA311209 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1153 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has called for international action against Libya, which he claimed is assisting the terrorist organizations. Mr Peres is currently addressing high school students in Kefar Sava. He told them that the most effective means against terrorism and the terrorists is an attack against the terrorist bases and the countries that aid them. Our correspondent Alex Talmor brings an excerpt from the prime minister's remarks:

[Begin Peres recording] These countries are currently headed by Libya. That is beyond question. It is an evil country rife with murder, led by a man who does not hesitate to kill his opponents and adversaries in cold blood. What I believe is so dangerous is the forgiveness he is encountering; some are impressed by him. I do not understand why world leaders meet with him. If it is true that the latest attacks were perpetrated by the Abu Nidal gang, we know that its leader can be found in Libya and that Libya, furthermore, celebrated. You might ask what it celebrated. It rejoiced when a girl was murdered in front of its eyes. I believe that until the free world unites in a determined and steadfast way against this, innocent people will continue to fall victim.

It is necessary to maintain international cooperation because clearly the best and most appropriate way to combat the terrorists is before they carry out their mission, before they set out. [end recording]

Rabin on Response to Terrorism, Syrian SAM's
TA301644 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Rafi Reshef — live in studio]

[Text] [Reshef] Good evening.

[Rabin] A good evening to you, too.

[Reshef] Yesterday you said that Israel would choose the place and timing for a reaction to the latest actions, but it is well known that it is very difficult to locate Abu Nidal's forces. Can we conclude from this that Israel might also act in areas, in countries, where it has not acted in the past?

[Rabin] You have quoted one excerpt from what I said. I said this in connection with the question being asked, especially by the U.S. media and other countries, of where Israel will retaliate for what occurred in Vienna and Rome, and I tried to explain that our problem is a constant, ongoing war by us against terrorism, a war that continues as long as the various terrorist organizations act against us. We must look at all aspects of the problem of terrorism. As far as we are concerned, the problem of terrorism does not exist only in Europe. First of all, it exists in the Lebanese sector; it exists inside the territories; it exists, or can come from the sea; and it also exists in Europe. Therefore, our activity against terrorism is one of deterrence, defense, and attack; it should not be seen in the context of one incident alone. So the problem is not just that of Abu Nidal. 'Arafat is still the main person responsible for terrorism, even if, for his own reasons — and maybe these reasons are true this time — he denies any connection with the attacks in Vienna and Rome. The renewal of attacks in Europe was, after all, begun by him, in Larnaca and Barcelona and in the hijacking of the Italian ship *Achille Lauro*. Therefore the war is a long, constant one. We will decide when, whether, and how to take action, and certainly on the methods of attack that could be initiated by us against terrorist targets that may be either in Lebanon or elsewhere.

[Reshef] I mentioned Abu Nidal's forces because it has been published that his forces were aided by diplomatic services from an Arab country. Do we know with any certainty that an Arab country was an active partner to the latest attacks?

[Rabin] When the reference is to attacks in Europe, we must separate three components. One is the freedom terrorists enjoy in Europe, and it may also be quite ironic, or tragic-ironic, that these actions, these murderous actions on Friday, took place in Austria and Italy, whose governments and government leaders have treated previous attacks very tolerantly. Altogether they have been very tolerant in their policy regarding the Palestinian terrorist organizations as a whole, and so terrorists there have a certain freedom of action. The second thing is that there are embassies of Arab countries that in the past have helped terrorists by, among other things, permitting the use of the diplomatic pouch for the transfer of weapons in those countries. We have proof that in the past, for the purpose of attacks in Europe, such governments as Iraq and Libya permitted terrorist elements of various types to transfer weapons via the diplomatic pouch, certainly using diplomatic immunity or diplomatic buildings to store weapons.

[Reshef] Do we have diplomatic or military tools to cope with this phenomenon you have just mentioned?

[Rabin] The tools are always complicated and include several elements. If the European governments do not do all that can be done to stop the terrorists' freedom of movement; if they do not do enough to explain their position regarding such attacks and all the elements who, both in the past and in this incident, perpetrated the attacks; and if they also do not regard the governments about which there is proof — and I am convinced that Austria and Italy will be able to learn almost everything connected with these two attacks because the Austrians are holding two terrorists whom they wounded and captured, and the Italians are holding one terrorist, and I am convinced that it is in their power to learn everything, where they were trained...

[Reshef, interrupting] Will we learn this information?

[Rabin] I very much hope that we also will learn it.

[Reshef] Have they promised to supply us with this information?

[Rabin] Generally speaking, in the past we have received it. I very much hope that we will receive it this time.

[Reshef] I would like to ask you one simple question. You mentioned Libya. We have heard of panic in Libya. Are you completely eliminating the possibility of an action there, naturally at the timing and so on decided on?

[Rabin] I am not eliminating the possibility of an attack against terrorist targets anywhere. We proved this in the action against the PLO command headquarters in Tunis. If, when, and against whom we will act — on this type of action, after all, you do not expect me to tell you.

[Reshef] Yes, that is natural. Permit me to move on to the tension with Syria. You have already said that the Syrians' moving of the missiles is actually a breach of the status quo. Can we conclude from this that our freedom of flights in Lebanese airspace will suffer?

[Rabin] As a result of the move of the SAM-2's, missiles that have a greater range and a higher altitude — it is true that these missiles are within Syrian territory, but in an area that really touches on the border between Syria and Lebanon — our freedom of flight has been restricted in Lebanese regions where we were in the habit of flying until about 26 November, when those missiles were moved. The introduction of SAM-6's and SAM-8's into Lebanese territory... [changes thought] Over the past 10 days missiles have been brought in, removed, and brought back into Lebanese territory. They too restrict or complete the restriction on flight in the areas where these missile weapons can be used efficiently. The result is a blow at our freedom of flight, especially in the sector of the northern Al-Biqa', whether our flights are for intelligence purposes or for attacking terrorists in terrorist bases and headquarters, which are in these places.

[Reshef] So you are pointing to two clear blows, both in the field of intelligence and in the ability to attack terrorists.

[Rabin] Two clear blows as a result of the missiles having been moved. I am not trying to define the scale of the damage. We have suffered damage as a result of freedom of flight in Lebanese airspace being restricted. I emphasize that this refers solely to freedom of flight in Lebanese airspace.

[Reshef] But you have already said that damage has occurred, but this is not a casus belli.

[Rabin] I did not say that.

[Reshef] But I am asking.

[Rabin] I do not wish to deal with definitions. This is a question of Syria. Syria is currently following the most hostile policy toward Israel, compared with other Arab countries that are our neighbors. For years Syria has been trying, particularly over the past 3 years, to increase its military power both qualitatively and quantitatively. It defines its objectives by strategic balance. What this means does not require any explanation. On the other hand, Syria is following a different policy in two sectors where there is possible contact with Israel. In all that involves the Golan Heights, the Syrians are being absolutely scrupulous about implementing the disengagement of forces agreement. There is no change there in the deployment of the Syrian forces. In the Lebanese sector, particularly in its northern section and on the matter of surface-to-air missiles, they have changed the rules of behavior they have been following since June 1982.

[Reshef] You have made a distinction between the Golan Heights and Lebanon. Allow me to ask you very simply: Do you believe there is fear that we are on the eve of a war with Syria, or does this distinction prove that we are not?

[Rabin] Look, I am not a prophet, and I do not want to try to don the robes of a prophet. I make a distinction between our assessment and our state of preparedness. It is my belief that right now Syria will not initiate a war on its own — I mean a comprehensive war — because it knows in advance what the results will be. At the same time, I cannot be certain that my logic is their logic, and therefore our deployment must be adapted to respond to any possibility, even one that contradicts our logical assessment. On the other hand, according to their behavior the Syrians might permit themselves a limited confrontation with Israel over anything connected with restricting freedom of flight over Lebanon. The fact that it has moved its missile system indicates that the Syrians are indeed willing to do this.

[Reshef] I would like to talk about political activity for a moment. Some political sources in Israel say that our political initiatives are actually responsible for the rapprochement and the meeting today between Al-Asad and Husayn.

[Rabin] A connection may always be made with our initiatives, but I do not think that this is necessarily true because it is not we who tell Husayn what to do. The initiative for possible peace negotiations between Jordan or a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that does not include PLO men has been Israel's consistent policy. It is good for us not to sit and wait for a telephone call, but rather to look for ways and take initiatives to find out if Jordan is really prepared to do this. Were I asked to describe the significance of the meeting between Husayn and Al-Asad today, I would say that, on the one hand, this rapprochement may give Syria the feeling that it has more freedom to provoke Israel in the Lebanese area and, on the other hand, it certainly gives Jordan more confidence on the issue of a Syrian threat. In the political sphere, regardless of how genuine this rapprochement is, it lessens the chances for a dialogue and for Jordanian-Israeli negotiations.

[Reshef] I would like to ask you another two or three questions about our own political agenda. About 15 months have elapsed since the establishment of the unity government, when both the Alignment and the Likud said that although this Government was not what they had desired, it was apparently the wish of the public and they would respect this wish. At the end of this period, are you satisfied? Have your expectations been met, or are you disappointed over the confrontations that have been tarnishing the joint work?

[Rabin] Look, it is hard to describe the establishment of the national unity government as a marriage of love. I think there were two reasons why both sides of the political spectrum realized the need to set up such a government; it was more a consequence of the election results than the wish of the people. First, voters cast their ballots; this was not the wish of the people as much as

it was the result of the elections. The second reason was the truly distressful situation Israel was in.

I would say that the national unity government has been successful in two fields, despite all the difficulties and pains: in the field of changing policy in Lebanon, namely, terminating Israel's massive military involvement in Lebanon and, secondly, in the field of our economic policy. I do not think that a one-party government would have been able to carry out the things we did.

[Reshef] Did you think you would be able to work with such a degree of mutual understanding with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres?

[Rabin] This has nothing to do with the national unity government.

[Reshef] But it has to do with the performance of the government; after all, the defense minister and the prime minister must work together.

[Rabin] As a rule, our relations are correct and we cooperate. However, this does not mean that we do not have occasional differences of opinion.

[Reshef] Will you run again for chairman of the Labor Party?

[Rabin] Are we on the eve of elections now? This is neither a specific nor a relevant issue.

[Reshef] But you are not ruling it out categorically?

[Rabin] I told you: This is not a specific or relevant issue; this is not the subject I am dealing with today.

[Reshef] Mr Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, I thank you very much.

Syrian SAM Moves Said Politically Motivated

TA301211 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
30 Dec 85 p 7

[Commentary by Re'uven Pedatzur: "Missiles in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' "]

[Text] It would be a mistake to view the latest Syrian move in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' only from its military aspect. In effect, reintroducing surface-to-air missile batteries into Lebanese territory changes nothing. The SAM-6 and SAM-8 missiles stationed in the Al-Biqa' have a relatively short range and are meant to hit low-flying planes. What can hamper the freedom of flight of the Israeli Air Force [IAF] in Lebanese airspace are the SAM-2 surface-to-air missile batteries that were stationed approximately a month ago in several locations on Syrian territory, near the border with Lebanon. These missiles have twice the range of the SAM-6 missiles — approximately 50 km — and they pose a danger to high altitude reconnaisance flights.

The entry of mobile missile batteries into Lebanese territory can be justified in military terms as an attempt to enlarge the defense setup over the stationary SAM-2 missile batteries. Such a move fits in well with the Soviet doctrine of building an air defense formation. A setup of this type is based on a combination of heavy stationary missiles (for example, the SAM-2's), deployed in trenches of a characteristic form, and medium and light missiles, whose function is to foil attacks at low altitudes. Stationed around the missile trenches are also anti-aircraft guns, which are mostly radar-controlled.

Therefore, from the military point of view, the reintroduction of the missiles into Lebanon last week can be regarded as having defense significance. In this way, this move is different from the earlier stationing of missile batteries on Lebanese soil. At that time, on 23 November, 4 days after two MIG-23 planes were downed in a dogfight, the Syrians deployed SAM-6 and SAM-8 surface-to-air missile batteries in Lebanon. The missiles were stationed in three spots far from the border. They actually served as three missile ambushes which was a quick response to the downing of the Syrian planes. It became apparent to the Syrians that the IAF had spotted the missile ambushes, and was avoiding any flights in the area protected by those missiles. The Syrians gave up, and after about a week they removed the missiles from Lebanon and returned them to Syrian territory. This time, the SAM-6 and SAM-8 missiles have indeed been deployed in Lebanese territory, but at points not too far from the Syrian border.

Nevertheless, despite the logical integration of the Syrian move into the military theory of building an air defense setup, it is doubtful whether the motives for this were indeed military. The Syrian Army and air defense commanders know full well that the IAF has operative solutions to destroy the new missile formation. The addition of several missile batteries to this setup will not change this fact. Thus, the motives for the Syrian move should be sought not at the local level, but rather in the strategic thought and planning by the Syrian leadership.

An analysis of Hafiz al-Asad's latest moves shows that the Syrian president, after a lull of approximately 3 years, has decided once again to adopt the tactic of "going to the brink." His last move proves that, after consideration, Al-Asad this time is apparently even prepared to gamble on going beyond the brink. It seems as though Al-Asad has lately been taking care to implement his plan in stages. Although this involves no small amount of gambling, the Syrian president believes that in any event Syria should reap most of the dividends.

Al-Asad is well aware that his latest moves have backed Israel into a corner. He also understands that every additional step by him reduces the number of possible reactions Israel has at its disposal and channels them toward an escalation. Thus, it can be seen that he does not rule out the possibility of a military clash, and perhaps he even wants one. Those who, in the weeks prior to the dogfight over Syria, followed the IAF reconnaisance flights over the Lebanese Al-Biqa' and analyzed the response to them by the Syrian Air Force would have learned of a trend toward escalation.

The Syrian warplanes that patrolled over Syrian territory opposite the IAF planes flying in Lebanese airspace at the same time began to reduce the distances between the flight routes. Occa-

sionally, the Syrian planes approached our planes so closely that an order was given for the reconnaisance mission to end so as to avoid a dogfight. It was clear that if the IAF had continued its reconnaisance flights, and the Syrian interceptors continued to narrow the distance, there would be a confrontation. The question that remained was who would be the first to fire. The end is known: The IAF was the one to fire and two Syrian planes were downed.

On the face of things, Al-Asad lost his gamble and two of his planes, but, actually, the dogfight in Syrian airspace gave him a good excuse to implement the next stage in his plan: moving the surface-to-air missiles westward. This was not an impulsive move. Evidence of this is the fact that preparatory work on the missile trenches in the border area with Lebanon were begun more than a year ago.

Once the deployment of the missiles near the Lebanese border was completed, President Al-Asad waited for Israel's response. When the storm had calmed and it became apparent that the IAF did not intend to attack the missiles at this stage, the Syrian leader decided to implement the next move: the introduction of missiles into Lebanese territory. This was yet another probing move. The batteries were deployed not far from the border, which made it possible for Israel to interpret the move as a defensive one. And indeed, senior Israeli military sources made it clear that this was exactly how they interpreted the Syrian move.

The need to make a decision has already gone beyond the military level. Now, the political level will have to solve "the missile dilemma." The Israeli decisionmakers are faced with three possible lines of action: to attack the missiles and destroy them and restore the status quo in all that concerns Israel's freedom of flight in Lebanese airspace; to return to a renewed operation of the original reconnaisance flight routes in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' with our planes threatened by the Syrian surface-to-air missiles; or to move the reconnaisance flight routes westward, beyond the area protected by the missiles.

By choosing the last alternative, the ability to gather intelligence information would be greatly damaged. In addition, the ability to strike at terrorist targets in the Al-Biqa' region in Lebanon would be restricted. The problem is that the two other lines of action have the potential for deterioration which could lead to a military confrontation that would not be limited only to action in the air. This is a problem, because in the situation that has been created only the Syrian side can gain anything from a military clash.

A limited confrontation between Israel and Syria, no matter what the military results are, would serve four Syrian objectives: the final elimination of the political process that has begun to take shape in Amman; the possibility of raising the subject of the future of the Golan Heights on the international agenda; an improvement in the Syrian position within the Arab world; and the possibility of eliminating the few advantages Israel is left with as a result of the Lebanese war. For those same reasons, and also of course because of the price involved in a military confrontation, Israel must try to prevent a military deterioration.

What is particularly frustrating is the fact that the moves by both sides have a dynamic quality which could lead to a clash, even if the timing is not right for either. Take, for example, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's statement on Friday that "flights in Lebanese airspace are in Israel's vital interests." The practical meaning of this is a promise by Israel to take action aimed at lifting the restrictions on the IAF's freedom of flight over Lebanon. Those who believe that statements and threats from Israel will cause Al-Asad to withdraw the missiles eastward are mistaken in their interpretation of the Syrian president's moves.

Now, the decisionmakers in Israel undoubtedly have to plan the lines of action that Al-Asad's next moves will necessitate. It seems it has been a long time since the two sides were as close to a military confrontation as they are now.

Reportage on Status of Tabah Dispute Understandings

Peres, Shamir Meet; Basyuni Leaves

TA301155 Tel Aviv IDF in Hebrew 1137 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir conferred last night on their own to discuss the Tabah matter. No details of the meeting were made known.

Muhammad Basyuni, the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Israel, is leaving today for Cairo. Sources in the Prime Minister's Office expect that Basyuni will bring back with him a written document of all the understandings reached between the two countries on the way to solve the Tabah dispute.

Peres Hopes for Decision Soon

TA302031 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] The prime minister has said that if he receives convincing answers from President Mubarak to the questions he sent him about Tabah, he will carry this matter through to its end. Mr Peres told members of the Alignment Knesset faction that he is waiting for explanations that are to be brought by the Egyptian charge d'affaires, Muhammad Basyuni, and he hopes there will be a decision on the matter within 2 to 3 weeks.

Presents Document on Progress

TA301852 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] The prime minister has said that Israel will react to the movement of the Syrian missiles to Lebanese territory where and when it chooses. Speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on another issue, that of the Tabah arbitration, Mr Peres said there has been great progress in the contacts with Egypt. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports on the committee's discussion:

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres took a firm stand today in the internal argument over the amount of progress achieved in the negotiations with Egypt. There has been great progress. Conclu-

sions and understandings have been achieved on all issues Israel regards as vital for the future of relations between the two countries. Mr Peres read an internal document, prepared by his office, to the committee members. It includes the detailed conclusions. There is an Egyptian commitment to implement all the agreements signed in the fields of commerce and culture. The arbitration bill will state that the arbiters can use different methods to try to find a solution, such as conciliation, during the first stages of the arbitration work. Such secondary issues as the site of the arbitration, the language in which it is conducted, and the evidence to be presented, were also agreed on. However, if there has been any progress on the precise question to be put to the arbiters, this question has not yet been determined. Today Peres spoke with warmth about the need to improve relations with Egypt and he stated: There is a chance that we will win in the arbitration, or at least partly.

Explains Egyptian Position

TA310656 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 31 Dec 85 p 2

[Report by the Knesset correspondent]

[Text] Egypt is willing to negotiate immediately on compensation with the families of the Ra's al-Burqa' shooting victims now that the killer's trial is over, Prime Minister Peres said yesterday. He told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that Israel and Egypt had agreed on special arrangements for the evacuation of casualties after accidents involving Israeli tourists in Sinai.

Peres said that Egyptian charge d'affaires Muhammad Basyuni was due to bring a written summary from President Mubarak of all points of agreement in negotiations between the two countries on a variety of subjects. Peres said Egypt was willing, after Israel had agreed to arbitration over the disputed Tabah zone — but before arbitration had actually begun — to carry out a whole list of commitments affecting relations between the two countries.

Mubarak had promised to implement every accord reached with Israel since Camp David, including those held in abeyance or suspended at various times, Peres said. These cover fields such as tourism, trade, cultural exchange, communications, political dialogue, technological exchange and more. Peres also said that Egypt would commit itself to a precise timetable in all these spheres, to be made public at the presidential level.

He said: "The *compromise*, or terms of reference for the arbitration, will contain Egyptian agreement to try to solve the Tabah dispute by conciliation, during the first two phases of the arbitration process in which each side presents its case.

"Egypt will not use the precise term conciliation but instead will refer to 'solution by other means'." He said that arrangements had been worked out with Egypt for seeking the bodies of IDF soldiers still missing in Sinai, about joint Israel-Egypt-U.S. efforts to locate the missing Israel Navy submarine *Daqar*, and about navigation procedures and landing facilities on the eastern Sinai shore.

Kimche on State of Relations

TA281955 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche has said that if there is arbitration between Israel and Egypt on the question of Tabah, the Egyptian ambassador will be sent back to Tel Aviv. However, there will be no normal relations between Israel and Egypt until a comprehensive agreement on the Middle East has been reached. Our correspondent in the Knesset adds that the director general of the Foreign Ministry this week gave a subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee a gloomy description of the state of relations between the two countries. To cite one example, the subcommittee was told that this year Egypt has only bought $5 million worth of goods from Israel and that a publishing house of anti-Semitic literature operates in Cairo. The situation is also noticeable in the field of tourism: Only two groups of Egyptian tourists have come to Israel so far.

Mr Kimche nevertheless pointed out that Egypt meticulously abides by the demilitarization arrangements in the Sinai Peninsula and that Israeli tourists get a reasonable reception in Egypt even after the murder of the Israelis at Ra's al-Burqa'.

Agriculture Cooperation Agreement Signed With Egypt

TA291132 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 29 Dec 85 p 19

[Report by Yosef Galili]

[Text] Another agricultural cooperation agreement between Israel and Egypt was signed over the weekend by Dr Yusuf Amin Wali, Egyptian minister of agriculture and food security, and Prof Shmu'el Pohoryles, director of the Joint Agricultural Planning and Development Authority in the Ministry of Agriculture.

The agreement is for the development of the "Gamiza 2" farm, in which Israeli experts will help in the development of arid zones in the western desert. The first agricultural cooperation agreement, which was signed by the two countries 5 years ago, was successful: The "Gamiza 1" farm in the Nile Delta yielded rich crops.

The Ministry of Agriculture's "Agridav" company will send experts to help develop arid zones in the western desert.

'Sources' on Pro-'Arafat Terrorists in S. Lebanon

TA311039 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 31 Dec 85 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Tali Zelinger]

[Excerpt] Palestinian terrorists belonging to organizations faithful to 'Arafat have been returning to the area south of Beirut ("southern Lebanon"), and their presence is broadly felt in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp near Sidon.

Military sources said yesterday that there is growing evidence that the Palestinian terrorists who have returned to southern

Lebanon are getting organized and that their concentration in 'Ayn al-Hulwah is currently very large. The sources made it clear that the IDF is following this closely and will consider its moves.

The arrangement that seems to be fleshing out among the various Lebanese factions has led the IDF sources to entertain greater fear of increased hostile terrorist activity in the security strip. Although the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] has been operating satisfactorily in the area, it is incapable of overcoming this anticipated development on its own. The IDF will consequently continue to support the ASL's activity.

Rabin Says No New Settlements on Golan Heights
TA300535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] No new settlements are to be established on the Golan Heights. The decision was taken by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin on recommendations from the Army High Command, which said there was a need for military training ground. Following the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, more forces were moved into the Golan, and in some cases settlements were completely cut off for hours because of IDF training with live ammunition.

The leaders of the settlement movement on the Golan say that the defense minister's decision is a difficult one with long-range implications. However, they do understand it.

AL-FAJR's Sanyurah Denounces Airport Attacks
TA301404 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 28 Dec 85 p 1

[By editor in chief Hannah Sanyurah: "The Misguided Hands"]

[Text] From the standpoint of responsibility and duty, and with a clear awareness of the difficult circumstances through which the Palestinian problem is passing at this stage of its long, eventful history, I denounce the two attacks that took place yesterday morning in the Rome and Vienna airports and share the grief of the innocent victims' relatives.

I believe that these two crimes, committed by misguided hands, were aimed at harming the Palestinian people's aspirations and hopes to achieve a just peace, as well as at harming the prestige of the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This comes at the height of the PLO's political struggle to obtain an active and principal role in the desired peace-making process in the region by means of an international conference attended by all the parties concerned in the Middle East crisis.

The "Cairo Declaration" is not ancient — this declaration that guaranteed, among other things, the PLO's commitment not to engage in any armed operations abroad, as well as its condemnation of all forms of terrorism. This makes us certain that there are misguided and malicious factions who do not care for the interest of the Palestinian people and who are not the least bit concerned about putting an end to this people's calamity.

IDF Soldier Wounded, 2 ASL Soldiers Killed in Zone
TA301825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] An IDF soldier was wounded today in the security strip in the Bayt Yahun area, north of Bint Jubayl. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the soldier was a mentor in the army of southern Lebanon [ASL]. He was driving in a car with two ASL soldiers, when suddenly fire was opened at them from the window of a house. The two ASL soldiers were killed while the IDF soldier sustained slight injuries in both hands.

The ASL sent a large force to the area. On its way, the force drove over a mine and another four ASL soldiers were wounded. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the remnants of a katyusha rocket fired today were uncovered in southern Lebanon, not far from the border.

Man Slightly Wounded in Hebron Shooting 30 Dec
TA301147 Tel Aviv IDF Radio In Hebrew
1137 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] A short time ago a man about 60 was shot at close range with a pistol in Gross Square, which is in the center of Hebron. Our police affairs correspondent Limor Nahum reports that the Jewish man was slightly wounded in his left leg and was transferred to the Hadassah 'En Kerem Hospital.

Roadblocks, Curfew Imposed
TA301833 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpts] At noon the security forces closed off the area of Gross Square in the center of Hebron where Moshe Atia of Petah Tiqva was shot. At the same time, roadblocks were set up and long lines of cars were checked by the soldiers. A curfew was imposed on the area that will apparently remain in effect until tomorrow morning.

At the same time, the security forces demolished the houses of three terrorists from the Al-Fawwar refugee camp, south of Hebron. Terrorist attacks from February to November this year are attributed to the three, including the planting of a makeshift bomb in a military stronghold in Hebron near the central bus station where today's shooting incident took place; the planting of two roadside explosives near the settlement of Bet Haggay in August and March; and the hurling of a grenade at a military jeep in Hebron, killing a local inhabitant and injuring three others.

The three terrorists are currently in prison. The security forces also boarded up another room in the house of the group's leader, Faysal Abd al-Ja'bar Faraj.

Two Wounded in Clash With IDF

TA301837 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Two youths were wounded this afternoon in the casbah of Hebron from shots fired by IDF soldiers because they did not comply with orders to stop and identify themselves. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the two were wounded in the legs, treated by the soldiers, and then transferred to the hospital in Jerusalem. The curfew imposed on the center of Hebron after an Israeli citizen was shot and wounded remains in effect.

Gaza Prisoners Admit To Killing Cellmates

TA281223 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Two terrorists who were serving a life sentence in the Gaza jail have admitted to strangling fellow cellmates 2 days ago. Our correspondent Moshe Halevi reports that other terrorists imprisoned in the same cell instructed the two terrorists who were serving a life sentence to carry out the act because they had nothing to lose. As in previous cases, the killing occurred against the suspicion that the prisoners had collaborated with the prison authorities.

OAU To Leave Peace Initiative to Regional Bodies

AB291443 Paris AFP in French 1420 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Dakar, 29 Dec (AFP) — The current OAU chairman holds the view that "the initiative should be left with regional organizations that are in a good position to take the first steps and possibly achieve the first results" in the conflict between Mali and Burkina Faso, OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou stated today.

"The OAU wants to avoid confusion and has no intention of making a decision today about a cease-fire," he further said after an audience with Senegalese head of state Abdou Diouf, who is also the current OAU chairman.

"If in the upcoming days nothing concrete occurs in the field, the OAU will then have to take further initiatives in order to crown with success the efforts made so far," he said. The OAU secretary general also pointed out that President Diouf had informed him during the audience of "the various contacts and considered efforts which he has personally made in order to halt the conflict."

OAU Secretary General's New Year's Eve Message

EA310918 Dakar PANA in French 1627 GMT 30 Dec 85

[New Year's Eve message by OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou; quotation marks as received]

[Excerpts] "I cannot avoid deploring the armed confrontation which our brothers in Burkina Faso and Mali are embroiled in at the moment, just when our continent, and in particular, their suffering region, need more than ever before to display united ranks in order to triumph over the trials which now assail them. I have also issued a pressing appeal to the two governments and peoples to bring to an end these inopportune hostilities, which have already cost innocent victims, and to make way for the procedures of peaceful settlement which the United Nations and OAU Charters prescribe. These procedures could be rapidly and efficaciously set in motion through African mediation under the auspices, notably, of the current chairman of our organization, assisted by heads of state in the region who are particularly well placed."

"On the threshold of the new year I think particularly of the gallant combatants of SWAPO, the ANC, PAC, and all liberation movements struggling in Namibia and South Africa and paying daily a heavy tribute to human dignity and freedom with their suffering, tears, and blood. I think also of our suffering brothers, the victims of famine and drought, of the refugees and displaced families who endlessly roam our continent in search of a pittance and a roof over their heads, which have become difficult to find.

In assessing and describing the situation of our continent, we can say simply that the picture is hardly a cheerful one: Several of our countries are on the point of economic collapse because of the inadequacy of our development policies, the merciless drought, and several other calamities. Agricultural production is in decline everywhere, creating a very worrying food situation in our continent. Our experts are decreasing because of lack of adequate encouragement and because the prices imposed on us from abroad no longer reward the efforts of our farmers.

As a result there is escalating indebtedness, without precedent hitherto. This is crushing the economy of our young nations, rendering them incapable of investing enough for the promotion of their development. In South Africa and Namibia, the villainous laws of apartheid and oppression are multiplying the martyrs within the ranks of freedom fighters. They continue to keep Namibia under the yoke of illegal occupation and colonisation. Permanent blackmail, economic pressure, and repeated aggression are perpetrated all year round against the Frontline States, which courageously meet the challenge but suffer from that unjust situation that we have to extirpate as soon as possible.

Such is the economic and political misfortune we are experiencing. But there are other misfortunes, for who can measure, and in what units express the decay of our societies, the degeneration of our youth, the deliquescence of our culture, and the immense suffering of our refugees? Of course the international community has not begrudged its assistance, and I take this opportunity to pay tribute to all those who extended to us a fraternal hand."

"Some years ago it was being exclaimed for all to hear that the OAU was on the point of collapse. Today it is evident that, thanks to the wisdom of its leaders, our organization has been able to transcend this difficult moment. It will also be able to survive the inevitable test if, around it, our states and peoples remain united in respect for our charter.

The arduous tasks which await us require cohesion and understanding above all. We will succeed, I am sure, in carrying them out if we are able to remain solid and militant within a strong OAU. If our vain quarrels and discords cease, Africa will be reborn. It will be reborn out of the sincere love that we have for one another, out of the spirit of dialogue which should inspire us to overcome the passing frictions which are never more than the result of prejudice or misunderstandings a simple, fraternal explanation would dissipate, out of the tolerance which we show in our neighborly relations, out of listening to our ideological or cultural differences. Finally, it will be reborn out of our capacity to resist, all of us together, the manuevers of the enemies of Africa and Africans."

GABON

Government Says No Plans For Relations With Israel

AB281500 Paris AFP in English 1431 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Libreville, Dec 28 (AFP) — The Government of the Central African state of Gabon has issued a statement disclaiming any intention of renewing diplomatic relations with Israel.

The statement, issued after a cabinet meeting yesterday and made public today in the national daily, *L'UNION*, said the government "wants to emphasize that Gabon suspended diplomatic relations with the Jewish state in the framework of a joint action decided by the Organization of African Unity" (OAU).

"Gabon remains faithful to its engagements both to the pan-African organization and to the Islamic Conference Organization, of which it is a member," the communique said.

Yesterday's government communique said that international press reports speculating that Gabon was one of the two states referred to by Mr. Peres were "baseless".

Two Additional Ministerial Posts Created

AB281940 Paris AFP in English 1438 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Libreville, Dec 28 (AFP) — President Omar Bongo of Gabon has carried out a minor reshuffle of his government, creating two new ministerial posts and bringing in a new environment minister, it was announced here today.

The newly created posts were minister of immigration and natural disasters, given to former Environment Minister General Barthelemy Mbia, and secretary of state to the presidency for research and coordinator of security police, which went to Samuel Mbaye.

Gen. Mbia was replaced as environment minister by Francois Owono Nguema.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

Ruling Party Secretary Loses Politburo Post

AB310830 Paris AFP in English 0411 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Lisbon, Dec 31 (AFP) — The secretary of Sao Tome's ruling party for Principe Island, Luis Sousa Pontes, lost his place on the Politburo in an election Monday by the Central Committee, the Portuguese news agency ANOP reported here.

He was the only member of the outgoing Politburo not to be re-elected. It has been enlarged to nine members, with the election of one newcomer to fill a vacant place, and the creation of two more seats.

The newcomers are the deputy speaker of the National People's Assembly, Major Raul Braganca Neto, Justice Minister Franciso Fortunato Pries, and the chairman of the People's District Assembly for Sao Tome, Manuel Quaresma Costa.

President Manuel Pinto da Costa, head of state since independence in 1975, and head of the ruling Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe, was re-elected. So were Alda Neves Graca do Espirito Santo (speaker of the National Assembly), Tome Dias da Costa (agriculture minister), Oscar Sacramento da Sousa (national defence and security minister), Antonio Amado Vaz, and Romao Pereira do Couto.

ZAIRE

Chinese Military Experts End Inspection Mission

AB301310 Dakar PANA in French 1657 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 27 Dec (AZAP/PANA) — Two Chinese military experts, who have been in Zaire for 3 weeks, have ended their inspection mission with a visit to the 41st Chock Commando Brigade based at Kisangani in Haut-Zaire, it was learned on Thursday at the General Headquarters of the Zairian Armed Forces, FAZ.

The two military personalities, an officer of the General Headquarters in charge of the Armament Division and a director of the Logistics Department, visited Mbanza-Ngungu and Banana where the armored brigade and the 3d Naval Command are located.

This visit, which is aimed at inspecting the Chinese military equipment used by the FAZ, falls within the framework of the exchange of military delegations decided by the Army authorities of the two countries in October 1984 during the visit to China by General Singa Boyenge Mosambayi, who was then the chief of staff of the FAZ.

Legislative Council Passes 1986 Budget

AB291910 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1650 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 29 Dec (AZAP) — Early this afternoon, the Legislative Council passed the state budget for the 1986 fiscal year. Under the new budget, revenues will total 67,928,659,077 zaires and expenditures 70,578,659,077 zaires, leaving a budget deficit of 2.65 billion zaires.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Seen Linked With Abu Nidal

NC291213 Paris AFP in English 1159 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Bonn, Dec 29 (AFP) — Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has agreed to give dissident Palestinian leader Abu Nidal an annual budget of 32 million dollars to carry out attacks, the West German newspaper *BILD AM SONNTAG* said today.

The paper said the two men reached the agreement during a meeting in Libyan desert on an unspecified date. A "first installment" of five million dollars has been made by a Libyan secret service officer whom *BILD* named as Colonel Hasan Ashkal.

Abu Nidal has been linked by press reports to Friday's attacks on Israeli airline counters at Rome and Vienna airports, in which 18 people died and more than 100 were wounded.

Sources close to investigators in Rome said that Muhammad Sarham, the only survivor from the five-man commando that carried out the attack at Rome's Fiumicio Airport, had told police he was a member of the Abu Nidal group.

Abu Nidal, an extremist who has been blamed in numerous terrorist attacks, heads a group bitterly opposed to Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, and has previously been said to have received backing from Libya and Syria.

Al-Qadhdhafi Cables Burkinabe, Malian Leaders

LD302144 Tripoli JANA in English 1809 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Athani 17, Dec. 30, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution sent two cables to thank both Captain Thomas Sankara the chairman of the National Revolutionary Council in the Jamahiriyah of Burkina Faso and to President Moussa Traore of the Republic of Mali. In both cables, the leader expressed thanks and appreciation for their countries' response to the sincere efforts Jamahiriyah exerted to establish a ceasefire and end bloodshed between the two brotherly peoples which once again confirms the ability of Africans to solve their own problems by themselves without an outside, non-African forces' interference.

Commentary on Malian-Burkinabe Cease-Fire

LD302143 Tripoli JANA in English 1753 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Athani 17, December 30, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Tripoli-based *GREEN MARCH* newspaper out today stresses that the announcement of a ceasefire between Burkina Faso and Mali confirms that the African mind is capable of being up to the level of events.

The paper which is published by the Revolutionary Committees says that over the 30-year war along the border between Burkina Faso and Mali has not been able to face the 3 o'clock announcement of Tripoli, for it was a war wanted by imperialism and erupted and sustained by it, so much so that it lasted that long. [Sentence as received]

The French who usurped formerly African cotton and robbed African soil of its valuable resources, proclaiming their self-style peace, are now (?dying) of shame and are made like germs before Africa that stands laughing at them after the recent exposure of French policy which has been lost in more than one African bush.

France is now only thinking of taking away its wood it cast on more than one fire of civil and border wars worldwide.

The paper goes on to say that France has tried to intervene between Mali and Burkina Faso and escalated the tension between them more than once and in more than one place all along their borders. This has been conducted by France owing to its inability to evaluate the competence of the African mind that has comprehended at the outset that French intervention or any other Western one represents a direct insult, for it is a continuation of a previous relation between former imperialism and former colonies.

The African mind realises, the paper adds, that when the French Government intervenes it wants to play with the paper of betting on the competition to assume power, for this paper has proved to be successful in being bringing profits in the interest of France. But, when France has tried to photocopy this paper on the African photocopy machine, it has not shown the same competence to predict the outcomes and direct the course of events in its interest.

Africa, the paper elaborates, which has witnessed over the last decades French interventions, witnesses now the burning of the French flag in France's overseas territories and will witness soon French hold will become loose and its yoke dismantled once and for all. Otherwise, French fingers will be burnt in Africa's blazing pot.

The paper concludes by saying "as regards the casting of doubt on the attempts exerted by Al-Jamahiriyah to solve the difference which have been accepted with great comfort at all levels in Burkina Faso and Mali, the African consciousness is capable of replying to this doubt-casting. The African mind is capable of being up to the level of the events. Rather, it is more advanced than that. Such a mind should solve its suspended problems internally lest it should give a chance for the imperialists to complicate these problems in a manner that serves their interests.

Al-Qadhdhafi Hands Iranian Envoy Message on War

LD301450 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution today received the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and handed him an important message to the Iranian leaders concerning the Gulf war.

Al-Qadhdhafi Talks on Telephone With YAR President

LD291130 Tripoli JANA in English 0905 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Athani 16, Dec. 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A telephone conversation took place yesterday between the leader of the revolution and President of the Yemen Arab Republic, 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

U.S., Israel Blame Libya, Syria for Airport Attacks

LD301911 Tripoli JANA in English 1740 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] London, Rabi Athani 17, Dec 30, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The British daily *SUNDAY EXPRESS* out yesterday said that the Zionist leaders threatened to wage retaliation air raids against some Arab states following the two operations of Rome and Vienna airports. The paper added that Libya was possibly one of the places that would be targeted by the Zionist air raids.

It is worth mentioning that British media and newspapers have exploited these two operations as a pretext to launch an attack on Arab states in general and instigating in an explicit manner to launch a new aggression on Arab positions and in particular on Libya and Syria.

Prejudiced U.S. Administration is trying in coordination with the Zionist enemy to point the finger of accusation against progressive Arab states spearheaded by Libya and Syria and holds them responsible for the armed attack carried out against the Zionist El-Al airlines office in Rome and exploits it as pretext to wage a slander campaign against these progressive states to distort their stances in the eyes of the Italian public opinion.

In his report, JANA's Rome correspondent said that U.S. Administration has concentrated its hostile campaign against everything Arab and has mobilised all its Italian racist forces, its pros, to place pressure on the Italian Government and demand that it should take hard and racist measures against the Arabs who are living in Italy and tighten the surveillance on them, exploiting in this regard the incident of the attack on the two airports of Rome and Vienna.

The correspondent adds that the comments made by both the U.S. and Zionist ambassadors to Italy in which they both demanded [as received] that the Arab terrorism (sic.) and the states that supported this terrorism (sic.) was but an evidence of the aggressive intentions confirmed by U.S. Administration in coordination with the Zionist enemy for the purpose of waging an aggression against progressive Arab states.

JANA Comments on 'Effeminate' Arab Rulers

LD301455 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Commentary by JANA political editor]

[Text] The terrorist, Yitzhaq Rabin, the minister of war of the Zionist enemy, has said that Arab capitals will not be safe from Israeli operations and that the Israelis will decide how, when, and where to attack.

Commenting on these insolent statements made by terrorist Rabin and other Zionist officials, JANA's political editor says: This Zionist and trembling coward in Tel Aviv can speak such threatening language while the Arab situation is in a bad shape and at its worst. He may also slap Arab rulers in the face one after the other while they are submissive to the Zionist enemy, vying with one another to ensure its security through their eagerness to punish and preventy any fedayeen action against this artificial entity.

The editor adds: The Zionists would not be able to speak this language had it not been for these effeminate Arab rulers who are anxious not to harm the enemy and not to arouse its anger. Moreover, they deplore the liquidation and death of any Zionist in order to please the enemy, just like somebody whose dignity has been violated and who applauds the one who violates it.

In his comment, the editor further says that it is the submissive Arabs and the American Administration who have made the Zionists speak with such insolence and threaten the Arabs, even in their beds. Without his submissiveness to the enemy and American support, this dirty Zionist would not dare brandish this insolent threat, which deprives Arab rulers of any dignity, pride or manhood.

The editor adds: The rottenness of the Zionists is nothing but the result of the effeminity of the Arab rulers, their protection for this artificial entity, and their prostration to America and its master, Reagan, on whose leftovers they live.

JANA's political editor concludes his comment by saying: We realize that these effeminate people do not dare read our comment; nor can they speak about occupied Palestine and the Zionists' terrorism. They also find it very difficult to mention America, which has enabled the enemy to exist in the occupied Arab land. And, because the situation is such, we do not address them with this comment; no, it would be more useful and appropriate to address ourselves to their wives, who might have more manhood than they.

JANA on FRG Party's Call To Sever Relations

LD310042 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Bonn, 30 Dec (JAN) — News agencies reported yesterday a statement by the secretary general of the Christian Social Union [CSU], which is part of the ruling coalition in West Germany, calling on the German Government to break off relations with Libya. Secretary General Gerold Tandler, who was speaking to the German newspaper *BILD*, urged the West German foreign minister to call an urgent meeting of EEC foreign ministers.

The JANA political editor has commented on this statement:

For such a racial statement to come from one of the government coalition parties in West Germany is no surprise to us here in Libya. For West Germany, as the demonstrations of its people against the present military American occupation bear witness,

is a country without freedom and does not make its decisions, rather it resembles a dog obeying the orders of its master at the American black house.

The editor pointed out that the real crimes were those commited by the bloodthirsty Nazi Germany, the crimes of genocide. He added: we in Libya clearly differentiate between the terrorism practiced by Nazy Germany and the U.S. Administration which currently flies its flag, and the just and legitimate struggle of the peoples suffering from the tyrany of the terrorist colonialists.

Because there is a vast difference between struggle and terrorism, we will struggle and continue the struggle for our rights in unity, liberation, and dignity.

Our answer to the Western countries, including Germany, which believe that they own the world and rule the universe is that Libya has its sovereignty and is capable of boycotting whomever threatens to boycott.

We remind this German official, who issues anti-Semitic statements full of the ugly racial crusader spirit, that the campaign he is calling to be waged in Europe against Libya would not be strange to us. West Germany and America have carried out numerous similar campaigns in the past aimed at the late Arab president, Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir, only because he dedicated his life to defend the Arab nation's freedom, to display its dignity, and to achieve its unity. So, we are by no means surprised today at their desperate attempts to tarnish the reputation of Libya and its historic leadership, because Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also works for Arab unity [words indistinct] and the freedom of man. Just as 'Abd al-Nasir was attacked, it is not surprising that [words indistinct] because 'Abd al-Nasir and Al-Qadhdhafi represent the symbols of Arab freedom, dignity, and nobility.

We conclude by saying that just as we respect your symbols such as George Washington and Bismarck and Garibaldi for their role in (?uniting their people), you have to respect our symbols. We let everyone know that we are (?determined to work for our unity, to exercise our freedom, and to defend our dignity, and if anyone harbored the idea of standing in the way of our unity and freedom or to harm our dignity them he must expect to find us everywhere).

MAURITANIA

Statement Issued on Mali-Burkina Faso Dispute

LD272250 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperations issued the following statement today:

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania is following with concern the painful dispute between the Republic of Mali and Burkina Faso. This dispute is being followed in our country at the highest level where we have carried out continuing efforts to preserve fraternity and good-neighborliness (?in) the relations between our African countries. This is especially true of those who are members of regional and fraternal organizations, and those whose peoples are linked by ties of proximity, history, and joint interests.

For this reason, our country is participating now in Abidjan in the conference of the foreign ministers and chiefs of staff of the member-countries of the non-aggression and joint defense treaty of the West African countries. This conference is dedicated to this dispute. The important Mauritanian delegation to this conference is headed by Lieutenant Colonel Djibril Ould Abdellahi, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation.

While these efforts are being made, we urgently appeal to the two fraternal countries to resort to the African wisedom in order to avoid bloodshed and to concentrate our efforts on the economic and social development.

MOROCCO

King Hassan II Returns From France 29 Dec

LD301428 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Marrakesh, Dec 30. (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco arrived here Sunday coming back from France after a four week sojourn in the French capital.

The sovereign was welcomed upon arrival by Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed, Prince Moulay Rachid, Moroccan Premier Mohamed Karum Lamrani, members of the government, the sovereign's advisers, members of the parliament, diplomats accredited in Morocco and other personalities.

During his stay in France, the Moroccan sovereign was on a state visit Nov 27-29 followed by a private visit which was marked by the participation, for the first time of the sovereign in the works of the XIIth conference of French and African heads of state held Dec 11-13 in Paris which climaxed with the admission of Morocco as a full fledged member of the French-African summit.

The sovereign held a series of talks with French President Francois Mitterrand and a number of African heads of state and received twice members of the Moroccan colony in France. Indeed, the sovereign hosted a reception Nov 29 attended by President Mitterrand and a second one on Dec 21 in the presence of Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed and Prince Moulay Radhid.

The Moroccan sovereign also visited the Monte-Cristo estate built by Alexander Dumas which has been restored thanks to a personal donation of the sovereign.

SUDAN

Daf'allah on IMF, Economy, Former Minister

JN291516 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1413 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Dec (SUNA) — The IMF has showed understanding of Sudan's recent stands and positions, but our viewpoints are still at odds. This was announced by Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah, who said that he discussed with

Transitional Military Council Chairman General Siwar al-Dhahab developments in the economic situation and exchanged viewpoints on a number of other issues this morning.

The prime minister expressed hope that the IMF will understand Sudan's economic situation during the forthcoming political meeting between IMF officials and Sudan's delegate. He added that Sudan has had contacts with a number of fraternal and friendly countries to support it and to adopt its position on the IMF.

Daf'allah also reiterated that the government will not take any legal measures against the former minister of finance and does not want to escalate this marginal problem. He said the government has enough problems, pointing out that differences in veiwpoints and resignations are normal, express democracy, and do not mean estrangement.

Attorney General Announces Islamic Law Amendments
GF301935 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Dec (SUNA) — Attorney General 'Umar 'Abd al-'Ati has announced that it has been decided to make urgent amendments to some provisions of the current penal code to prevent the duplication of penalties, stop floggings, and nullify many violations and defects caused by the penal code which was introduced in 1983.

The attorney general pointed out that the Cabinet has approved the amendments. He stated that the amendments do not mean a direct return to the 1974 codes as some may think, but are intended to remove the violations which occurred as part of the country's supreme policy which still adheres to the Islamic Shari'a as a source of codes. The attorney general added that it has been decided to retain the Islamic penalties for manslaughter, theft, adultery, prostitution, fornication, corruption, and war against Muslim citizens.

He indicated that it has been decided that correcting the application of these penalties will be thoroughly discussed during a conference of Muslim ulema from inside and outside the country to present specific scientific studies on the definition and application of penalties. The attorney general added that the conference would be asked to submit studies on the rights of non-Muslims in the Islamic codes. He pointed out that no extreme rightist or leftist parties will be allowed to take part in the conference due to the need to rely on accurate scientific studies.

Falasha Trial Verdicts Expected in Late January
GF290936 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0652 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 29 Dec (WAKH) — Sudanese Public Prosecutor 'Umar Abd al-'Ati has affirmed that the verdicts regarding the smuggling of Falasha Jews into occupied Palestine will be passed in late January 1986 and that the trials are nearing their end.

The Sudanese public prosecutor has demanded the death sentence for the first defendant in the case, 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib, deputy of ousted Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, and the confiscation of his wealth.

In a statement to the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* published in Abu Dhabi today, 'Abd al-'Ati disclosed that the German company which proposed burying nuclear waste in Sudan has renewed its bid to Sudan.

He said that the traitor Ja'far Numayri will be individually put on trial on charges of making an agreement with the FRG company to bury nuclear waste in the western Sudan desert in return for $4 billion.

The Sudanese public prosecutor said that the ousted Numayri is conducting political activity in Egypt where he has received a number of officials of the defunct regime.

He said that 'Uthman Abu al-Qasim, former minister of cooperation and rural development who is currently under detention on charges of opposing the new regime, will be put on trial on charges of embezzling public funds. He also said that the court has rejected a financial settlement with the defendant Fatimah Khalil, sister-in-law of the ousted president, because she managed to embezzle 20,000 Sudanese pounds from a children's village project.

The Sudanese public prosecutor stated that the information available to him on the Islamic Jihad organization, some members of which have been detained, is not as dangerous as the media and public opinion have said it is.

Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl Returns From UAE
JN301517 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Dec (SUNA) — General Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl, vice chairman of the Transitional Military Council and deputy commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, returned this morning after a week-long visit to the UAE, during which he discussed with UAE officials aspects of bilateral cooperation in military and training areas. He also visited some military centers there. During the visit, he was accompanied by a military delegation made up of People's Armed Forces officers.

Soviet Economic Delegation To Arrive January
GF301832 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Dec (SUNA) — A Soviet economic delegation will arrive in Sudan in the middle of January on a visit to last several days. During the visit, the delegation will hold talks with the competent authorities on consolidating and activating the fields of economic cooperation between Sudan and the Soviet Union.

It is worth noting, that the Soviet Union had offered three loans to Sudan during the 1960's to finance several [word indistinct] factories and grain silos.

'Sudanese People's Federal Party' Formed

JN281048 Khartoum SUNA in English 1025 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 28 (SUNA) Upper Nile Political Association was announced as a political party under the name of Sudanese People's Federal Party.

The deputy chairman of the newborn party will hold its conference at Malakal (Southern Region) to elect its new leadership.

The Upper Nile Political Association appeared on Sudan's political scene after April 6 popular revolution.

Radio SPLA Details Clashes With Government Troops

EA271606 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Details of clashes between the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces of Twik Twik Battalion and Siwar al-Dhahab's troops between Rumbek and Yirol have come in. According to a Radio SPLA correspondent with Twik Twik Battalion in Bahr al-Ghazal the 11 hours fight, which started from 7 am to 5 pm on 24th December 1985, resulted in the total annihilation of the government's Battalion 240. According to our correspondent, 100 bodies of Siwar al-Dhahab's soldiers were found and only 30 of Siwar al-Dhahab's soldiers were reported to have arrived in Rumbek without guns and half-naked.

There are no casualties on the SPLA side.

The following weapons were captured from the enemy: Two 120-mm mortars; 2 12.7 mm antiaircraft guns; 2 84-mm mortars; 9 60-mm mortars; 8 42 heavy machineguns — 6 in good working order and two destroyed — 128 G-3 rifles; 2 MB-5 rifles for officers. Amount of ammunition captured from the enemy includes 54 boxes of ammunition of G-3 rifles; 50 shells of 120-mm; 193 boxes of 12.7-mm; and 91 shells of 60-mm mortar. Eight Magirus trucks were captured, six in good condition, and two were destroyed.

One APC [armoured personnel carrier] slightly escaped but has not yet reached the town. It is either lost or grounded in the bushes. One radio set TRA 906-M, serial number 91219, American-type from Racal company, with all its parts in good working condition, was seized. Foodstuffs of 6 months, salary of complete 6 months, and clothes for 6 months were also captured, and the enemy's secret documents were also confiscated.

Our correspondent said that the enemy force ran in disarray in different directions. On the left side of Bahr el Nam the enemy ran through (Farial) and (Pankit Awaj). On the right it ran through (Abidir) and (Magengton). The SPLA forces pursued the running enemy for a distance of 5 miles. According to our correspondent, the enemy's Battalion 240 was brought from Al-Fashir in western Sudan. He further said that most of the soldiers whose bodies were found were from Nyala, Fashir, and Zalingei. The prisoner of war, Captain (al-Amin Ibrahim), was quoted by our correspondent as saying that they were being deceived by the junta in Khartoum that SPLA forces are not well trained and not equipped, and that captive Capt (al-Amin Ibrahim) now feels sorry for what he has seen with his own eyes is of great contradiction.

Meanwhile, the commander of Twik Twik Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel Aweid Okuot, has advised the oppressed masses in the western Sudan, who are dying of hunger, thirsty, and suffering from displacement, to join the unified command of the armed forces for the western Sudan, to join hands with SPLA in fighting for freedom from oppression and exploitation. He advised the masses to listen to facts and reality from radio SPLA. The annihilation of Battalion 240, Lt-Col Daniel Aweid Okuot said, should serve as a lesson to the government forces in Bahr al-Ghazal and he warned the government forces to remain in their barracks and never to provoke the SPLA. If they do not listen, it will cost them a great deal of lives.

TUNISIA

Spokesman Says Libya Withheld Tunisian Passports

LD301920 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] This afternoon a meeting was held at the Ministry of Interior with representatives of the Tunisian and foreign media. During this meeting the truth was revealed after what had been alleged by a news agency about the involvement of Tunisian citizens in the terrorist operation in Vienna airport last Friday. [Words indistinct] some of those who carried out the terrorist operation were carrying Tunisian passports. They were identified by the passports.

The spokesman for the minister in charge of national security stated that the Tunisian security authorities carried out investigations which revealed that the three people mentioned in the news report are currently in Tunisia; they had previously resided in Libya and returned to Tunisia some time ago. The three citizens were brought from their homes and shown to the media representatives so that everybody could see them. These citizens are Munji Ben Abdallah Saadawi, who was expelled from Libya in September 1985, Abdelaziz Merzughi, expelled from Libya in August 1985, and Ahmed Ben Ibrahim Ben Taha [name indistinct], who lost his passport in Libya in 1977 and returned to Tunisia with [words indistinct] passport.

The official spokesman pointed out that these Tunisians were expelled from Libya without having the chance to collect their entitlements and their passports had been withdrawn by the Libyan authorities. [Words indistinct] the lost or stolen passports and using them for illegal purposes, the Tunisian security authorities adopted measures, both domestically and internationally, which included orders to search for those carrying these passports. They also informed Interpol through the Tunisian Central Criminal Bureau according the traditional cooperation channels, about the loss of these passports, all the Tunisian workers' passports which were kept by the Libyan authorities, and about the loss of another group of passports. Lists were given to Interpol for distribution among the security authorities of the Interpol member-countries so that they could look for them.

The official spokesman of the Security Ministry announced that the Tunisian security authorites are ready to coordinate with the security authorities of Vienna to [words indistinct] to clarify all confusion and to foil all the attempts to harm the good reputation which Tunisia enjoys abroad.

Bourguiba Meets Ministers on Education, Water Issues

LD301544 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpts] President Habib Bourguiba held a working session this morning in the Palace of the Republic in Carthage with Prime Minister and Interior Minister Mr Mohamed Mzali, in the presence of Habib Bourguiba, special adviser to the president of the Republic, and Mansour Skhiri, minister and director of the President's Office.

President Habib Bourguiba also met with Mr Lassad Ben Osman, minister of agriculture, and stressed his great interest in the reactivation of the exploration for water in the Gafsa Governorate in the most rapid and efficient ways. This reactivation will begin in the first weeks of January 1986.

At his meeting with Educat[illegible] Habib Bourguiba was briefed [illegible] of t[illegible] conference of the Arab organization for education, science, and culture. President Bourguiba was also briefed on the march of academic life and recommended that action be taken to protect our colleges from all political and ideological wrangles. He has also recommended that fools who are bent on harming our homeland in our most cherished pride, the education field, be punished.

His excellency has, on the other hand voiced hope that our sons and daughters, school boys and girls, will devote themselves fully to their school duties so that they may acquire science and knowledge, and secure provisions that will make them soldiers for this homeland, defending and building it. This will be possible only if they meet the expectations that their people have for them.

ETHIOPIA

Oromo Liberation Front Says 84 Soldiers Killed

NC301750 Paris AFP in English 1742 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 30 (AFP) — Guerrillas of the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF), who seek self-determination for a large part of southern Ethiopia, today said they had killed 84 Ethiopian soldiers and wounded 200 in fighting in the south-west of the country during the past two months.

The claim was made in a statement handed out in Khartoum by a Doctor Ebbe, an OLF official, who said that the guerrillas had also liberated "tens of thousands" of people from Ethiopian control and killed around 400 Ethiopian troops during an earlier offensive last June.

The statement said the latest offensive had succeeded in "frustrating" a planned new move against the OLF by Ethiopian Government forces.

It said the guerrillas made a surprise attack on the government forces in Welega on December 22, killing 50 and wounding over 150 Ethiopian soldiers.

The OLF forces lost two killed and nine wounded in that attack, and captured large quantities of military equipment, the statement said.

On December 12, the OLF ambushed a military truck in the province with land-mines, killing 12 Ethiopians and wounding 19, it added.

And on November 29, Oromo guerrillas attacked a government barracks at Quebbe, in the same province, killing 22 soldiers and wounding 50, the OLF said.

Dr. Ebbe said there were some 20 million Oromos in all. The OLF, which seeks self-determination for much of southern Ethiopia, has in the past been supported by Somalia, which borders the country to the east.

New Radio Station Operational in Eritrea

EA301250 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] A radio station built in the Tigrai region [northern Ethiopia] at a cost of 254,213 Birr for the purpose of making educational broadcasts began operating today. The radio station, built for the purpose of broadcasting general educational programs and programs on Ethiopia's political, economic, and social activities has six rooms for varying purposes and is staffed with personnel trained in social and natural science and production techniques.

In addition to the standard educational programs, the station will broadcast a program entitled "Relax and Learn" every Saturday in Amharic from 1200 am to 100 pm [0900-1000 GMT], and every Sunday in Tigrinya from 1100 am to 1200 pm [0800-0900 GMT] and long programs [as heard].

BURKINA FASO

Only ANAD Cease-Fire Valid in Conflict With Mali

AB301118 Paris AFP in French 1026 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Abidjan, 30 Dec (AFP) — According to sources close to the Ivorian Government, the cease-fire agreement between Mali and Burkina Faso proposed by the seven member-states of the Nonaggression and Defense aid Agreement [ANAD], an agreement that does not make any provision for the presence of Libyan troops within the observer team, is the only valid agreement. According to the same source, the cease-fire agreement proposed by Libya and Nigeria, which includes the presence of Libyan troops, and which was accepted by Burkina Faso, is not valid.

It will be recalled that Radio Bamako, however, announced on Sunday night that the Malian Government had declared a cease-fire as a result of joint mediation by Libya and Nigeria.

It will be recalled that the ANAD is a subregional organization that includes seven countries, that is, the two warring countries, the Ivory Coast, Senegal, Mauritania, Niger, and Togo. According to the same source, the agreement was signed on Sunday night in the capitals of the warring nations, following the visits of a mediatory mission led by the Ivorian ministers of foreign affairs and defense, Simeon Ake and Jean Konan Banny, respectively. These two envoys returned to Abidjan on Monday morning after obtaining the signatures of Presidents Thomas Sankara and Moussa Traore. They were accompanied by General Jean Gomis (Senegal), the ANAD secretary general.

According to sources close to the Ivorian Government, the ANAD, with the exception of Burkina Faso, unanimously rejected the presence of Libyan troops in the area of conflict. This new version of the cease-fire, "the only authentic one," provided for an end of fighting at 0600 GMT on Monday morning, this personality [cette personalitie] told AFP, asserting that "all that had been said before was inaccurate."

Observers, who are finding it difficult to follow this diplomatic imbroglio, noted that although two rival agreements existed last night, the ANAD Extraordinary Council of Ministers seemed to have succeeded in making the two warring nations accept its proposals thus making the Nigeria-Libya agreement null and void.

Vigilance Urged During Cease-Fire Agreement

AB301328 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] A cease-fire agreement was reached yesterday between Burkina Faso and Mali to end the fighting that broke out between them on 25 December following a Malian attack. Nevertheless, this cease-fire should not make us lose sight of the need for vigilance, and general mobilization to bar the road to stateless persons and any antirevolutionary or enemy intending to destabilize our region.

International Court Asked for 'Temporary Measures'

AB301400 Paris AFP in French 1301 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Paris, 30 Dec (AFP) — Burkina Faso has asked the International Court of Justice at The Hague to spell out some "temporary measures" in the conflict between it and Mali, envisaging notably the withdrawal of each other's troops from the common border of the two countries, the Burkinabe Embassy in Paris announced Monday.

In its latest request, Burkina Faso demands the court "to order the withdrawal of each other's troops from the border and the refrain from any acts that could compromise the implementation of the order that the court is preparing to give," a communique from the embassy states. The communique states that Ouagadougou "thus shows its confidence in the peaceful and judicial settlement of the border dispute."

National Guard Requests Members To Report

AB302110 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2030 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Unattributed "Communique"]

[Text] The comrade lieutenant [not further identified], commander of the National Revolution Guard, requests all the members of the second and third groups of the National Popular Service attached to the Guard to report to the National Revolution Guard headquarters tomorrow, Tuesday, 31 December 1985, at 0700 sharp. The fatherland or death, we will win!

PLO Envoy Meets Sankara, Comments on Situation

AB302318 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and president of Burkina Faso, granted an audience this evening to a special envoy from PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, Sulayman Harfi. Mr Harfi, who is chairman Yasir 'Arafat's advsier on African affairs, was accompanied by ('Abd al-Rahim Abu Rabah), PLO ambassador to Burkina Faso, and Mr (al-Faruk), adviser at the office of the PLO chairman. His talk with the president of Burkina Faso touched essentially on the war situation between Burkina Faso and Mali. Let us listen to Mr Harfi speaking to Francis Kabore.

[Begin recording] [Harfi] [Passage indistinct] (?I discussed) with President Sankara the relations of freindship with his brother, Yasir 'Arafat, (?and) the war situation between two brother countries, Mali and Burkina Faso. Mr Yasir 'Afafat dispatched me to (?meet) President Traore and President Sankara. [Passage indistinct] I had the honor of being received by President Sankara who gave me a very important and urgent message for his brother, Yasir 'Arafat. [Words indistinct] two brotherly countries which are militants of the Nonaligned Movement. We are also bound together in a very long history and we are also members of the Islamic Conference. This is why Yasir 'Arafat sent me (?with messages) to President Sankara and President Moussa Traore in order to try to examine the situation and find a solution

to the conflict between Burkina and Mali.

[Kabore] How do you see the current situation prevailing between Burkina Faso and Mali?

[Harfi] We hope that the two brotherly countries will be wise enough [words indistinct] (?to end the fight) between them. [end recording]

Bamako Report of Coup Plot Criticized
AB282330 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Some Radio Mali journalists are really not too far from going mad. This evening, they announced that Captain Sankara has reportedly escaped a coup plotted by a corporal. Of course, they refrained from assuming responsibility for the piece of news. They attributed it to certain international news agencies which they did not have the courage to mention for reasons best known to them. Radio Mali refused to mention the international news agency which supplied such information. We know that the puppets in Bamako and their bad [word indistinct] have always wished for the downfall of the person who has been making them suffer severe thrashings. However, let us not take (?their pieces of news) for reality.

'International Imperialists' Blamed for Conflict
AB301438 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] So, some stateless Burkinabe people participated in the fighting on the side of the Malian invasion forces in the framework of the huge plot hatched by international imperialists to destabilize our democratic and people's revolution. The just analysis made by the National Council of the Revolution since the fighting began is confirmed every day, because people like Jean-Claude Kamboule, Lona Charles Ouattara, and others such as Jean (Sompoure), who were seen on the battlefield, would expect to enrich themselves if the Agacher strip constituted the real stake in the battle.

The aim of the attack directed against our peaceful people was indeed to sow the seeds of secession in our fatherland along with its string of misfortunes. All who continue to disturb us with the far-fetched thesis of the dispute over the so-called riches of the Agacher strip, like Kader Diop of the AFP, should rather ask themselves why the main battle has been taking place more than 500 km away from the so-called covered area. It is also difficult to understand why the Malian Air Force attacked districts that are claimed by Mali, like Noiunouga. How can one bomb one's own people? It is worthwhile to note especially that during the battle, the Malian forces used material means that are highly superior to their usual means. That is to say that they received considerable reinforcements from international imperialists through thr intermediary of certain states in the subregion.

But this extraordinary use of means, as well as the presence of mercenaries seen on various battlefield, was countered by the strong determination of our people to defend their revolution. History has taught us, with examples like Vietnam, Western Sahara, and Nicaragua, that determined people who are mobilized according to just causes are, and remain invincible. May international reactionaries understand this truth, and recognize our right to live freely as a sovereign people on our territory, otherwise they will face the consequences of a generalized people's war decided upon by our people in exercising their inalienable right to self-defense.

GAMBIA

Nation Cuts Back on Investments, Civil Servants
AB301520 Paris AFP in English 0954 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Banjul, Dec 29 (AFP) — Gambia is negotiating for credit from the World Bank to finance new job schemes to compensate for a big reduction in the civil service, President Dawda Jawara told the new session of parliament here Friday. He said 1,800 civil servants had already been laid off in the past two months, and the programme of phasing out more posts would continue next year.

The public investment budget would be cut back from 776 million dalasis to 640 million (from 220 million to 182 million dollars), he said.

Of general financing assistance of 50 million dollars required up to the end of 1985, about half had been pledged since a donors' conference met in London in September, Sir Dawda reported. The World Bank looked likely to provide 12 million dollars in two instalments over 18 months, and Britain would be making available credit of seven million dollars.

GHANA

Rawlings Receives Special Message from Togo's Eyadema
AB302058 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings, today received a special message from President Eyadema of Togo. The contents of the message, which was delivered by a three-man Togolese delegation led by the minister of finance and planning, Mr Komlan Alipui, were not disclosed. Mr Alipui told newsmen later that it is the policy of his government to try and promote cooperation among countries of the subregion. He said he will discuss with the Ghanaian side ways of strengthening relations between the two countries.

Tsikata Returns From Peace Mission in Burkina Faso
AB302052 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council member

responsible for foreign affairs, Captain Kojo Tsikata, returned home today from Ouagadougou on a peace mission to Burkina Faso. While there, Capt Tsikata delivered a special message from Flight Lieutenant Rawlings to his Burkinabe counterpart, Captain Thomas Sankara, on the border war between Mali and Burkina Faso. A number of initiatives by African countries has resulted in the acceptance of a cease-fire proposed by Libya and Nigeria and the seven-member West African Nonaggression Defense Pact.

Speaking to the GHANA NEWS AGENCY, Capt Tsikata said, from Burkina Faso's point of view, Mali took advantage of the Burkinabes' initial withdrawal from the border to bomb villages and civilian targets, such as clinics and markets which led to the death of innocent persons, including Ghanaians. He said: Although Burkina Faso had embarked on a major offensive against Mali, he is confident that Capt Sankara will respect the provisions of the cease-dire as a result of the message he delivered to him from the PNDC chairman.

It will be recalled that earlier in the week, a two-man delegation made up of Alhaji Mahama Idrisu and the force commander, Major General Arnold Quainoo, went to Bamako to deliver a special message from Chairman Rawlings to the Malian head of state, General Moussa Traore.

Press: Revolution's Achievements Outweigh Mistakes
AB311105 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 31 Dec 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC* in an editorial headed, "On, On We Go," says 4 years ago the architects of the 31 December uprising asked for nothing less than a revolution, a process that should take the nation away from the throes of entrenched sectarian interests in which only a few people had a voice. The paper says a new era was dawning on 31 December 1981 without most people knowing it. It says, not even the words of the leader of the revolution, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, that what was taking place was not a coup d'etat, could produce the eye-opener to what was happening, something that would transform the social and economic order of the country.

The *PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC* asks how many Ghanaians believed that by this process every Ghanaian would be part of the decision-making process and have a say in the things that directly affect their daily lives. The paper says even though four years is not a long time, the revolution has come a long way in spite of internal and external hostilities aimed at destabilizing the revolutionary concept. It says the patriots of the process will be the first to admit that mistakes have been made along the way, and it happens with every human institution. The paper is convinced that putting the four years into the bargain, it can stick out its neck and say the revolution has more credits as against mistakes. It says the enactment of new laws for better social order, creation of new structures and government administrative machinery, and the creation of awareness towards rejecting corrupt practices and embracing accountability are some of the major achievements of the revolution.

The *GRAPHIC* concludes that the surge for a true democracy, which is rooted in the country's culture, values and traditions is on; and all Ghanaians must not forget that attempts will be made to retard and even discourage this surge.

GUINEA

Joint Cooperation Talks With Libya Begin
LD261107 Tripoli JANA in English 0850 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Athani 13, Dec 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Joint Libyan Arab-Guinean Committee of economic and social co-operation started its meetings yesterday afternoon studying the ways and means for developing and strengthening the present bilateral co-operation relations between the two friendly countries in all fields.

The speakers at the meeting were the secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau and facine Toure executive member of the Military Committee of National Redress (Comite Militaire de Redressment National — MRN) in Guinea Conakry. They, both, stressed the importance of holding these meetings to achieve and implement the agreements and programmes and the joint firms between the two countries.

The secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau met yesterday morning the Executive member of the Military Committee of National Redress (CMRN) in Guinea. During this meeting they studied the ways and means for strengthening the co-operation and implementation activation of the work of the joint firms.

Secretary General of Presidency Appointed
AB302231 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 30 Dec 85

["Presidential Ordinance" issued in Conakry on 28 December 1985 appointing the secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic — read by announcer]

[Text] By ordinance No 340/PRG/85, the president of the Republic decrees:

Article 1. Major (Henri Koula) has been appointed secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic.

Article 2. This ordinance, which takes effect from the date of its signature, will be recorded and published in the official journal.

Conakry, 28 December 1985 by General Lansana Conte

[Signed] General Lansana Conte

IVORY COAST

ANAD Issues Communique on Mali-Burkina Agreement

AB301320 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 30 Dec 85

["Final" communique issued following a meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD] in Abidjan on 30 December; read by General Jean Gomis]

[Text] The Ministerial Council of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD] between the member-states of the CEAO [West African Economic Community] and Togo held an extraordinary session on Sunday, 29 December 1985, at the ANAD headquarters in Abidjan under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr Simeon Ake, foreign minister of the Republic of Ivory Coast. All the seven member-states of the organization were represented. The People's Republic of Benin also attended the meeting as an observer.

The Ministerial Council examined the situation resulting from the aggravation of the border dispute between Burkina Faso and Mali. In this connection, it took cognizance of the efforts of mediation made by the heads of state and government of the member-countries of ANAD and by certain friendly and brotherly countries. The various statements made by the delegations demonstrate that there exists a real common political will to achieve a peaceful settlement of this dispute and that in this regard, ANAD constitutes the adequate forum.

After a thorough exchange of views on the ways and means to restore peace in the area as well as the relations of good neighborliness between the brotherly countries of Burkina Faso and the Republic of Mali, the Ministerial Council decided, in agreement with the parties involved, to propose to the heads of state of Burkina Faso and the Republic of Mali to make a joint government statement. According to this statement, the Governments of Burkina Faso and the Republic of Mali agree to order a cease-fire that will come into force as soon as the statement is signed by the two heads of state; to agree to the dispatch of a commission of observers comprising two officers of each member state of ANAD and of Benin to verify the effectiveness of the cease-fire at 0900 GMT on 31 December 1985 at the latest; and to order the liberation of prisoners as soon as possible under the aegis of ANAD.

This statement was submitted to the two heads of state by a mission dispatched to them by President Felix Houphouet-Boigny and comprising Mr Simeon Ake, foreign minister and chairman of the session, and Mr Jean Konan Banny, minister of defense of Ivory Coast, who were accompanied by Gen Jean Gomis, secretary general of the agreement. The two heads of state signed the statement respectively in Ouagadougou on 30 December 1985 at 0025 GMT and in Bamako on 30 December 1985 at 0320 GMT and decided to order a cease-fire on Monday, 30 December 1985, at 0600 GMT.

Concerning the withdrawal of troops, the governments of Burkina Faso and the Republic of Mali agreed that the conference of ANAD heads of state and government should create a ministerial comission-assisted by the chiefs of staff of the armed forces of the member countries and by the ANAD secretary general — to determine the modalities of the withdrawal of troops, demarcate the zone to be demilitarized, and see the the effective implementation of the measures agreed upon.

The deliberations of this first extraordinary session of the ANAD ministerial council took place in a serene atmosphere and was characterized by a desire for peace and fraternal dialogue.

Issued in Abidjan on 30 Dec 1985

Ministers Comment

AB302028 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
0930 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Convened to meet on the situation prevailing between Mali and Burkina Faso, the Council of Ministers of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD] member-countries completed its deliberations in Abidjan this morning.

Now that the cease-fire has been signed, the two parties will engage in a dialogue and consultations in order to attempt to solve their border dispute which has already been referred to the International Court of Justice at the Hague. Why The Hague court and not the OAU? The following explanation is given by the Malian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation:

[Begin recording] In fact, the OAU has a mediation, conciliation, and arbitration commission. But since it was set up, the commission has not been operating. It is not only the Burkina-Mali border conflcit that has not been referred to this body, but no other conflict or crisis has been submitted to this OAU body, which proves that no realistic and pragmatic work has been done. Con.ideration was not given to African mentaliy and ethnics which resort preferably to more ad hoc, more appropriate bodies for each situation cocerned.

Most conflicts that erupted between African states have been settled through African-style consultaiton. But, why did Malu and Burkina Faso eventally decided to submit their dispute to the International Court of Justice? Well, it is because ad hoc attempts have been made, notably a conference in Lome, a meeting in Conakry, and many attempts which have been unsuccessful because this question was fraought with (?psychological) considerations. Consequently, both countries being members of the United Nations, it is normal to refer to a UN body, that is the International Court of Justice. But I must add — as a very important and convincing element — that both heads of state have agreed that in the meantime, the dialogue at the bilateral level should be pursued even with the mediation of a friendly country, Algeria. In fact, there was already a lot of progress. In December alone, two meetings were held at the level of the ministers of interior and the Algerian authorities are continuing to examine the question in order to more rapidly find a possible solution that will certainly be more fraternal. [end recording]

The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation of Burkina Faso also talked to us about what his country is expecting of The

Hague International Court of Justice:

[Begin recording] I think that one can make this observation. This problem has been going on for almost 20 years now and it deserves not only Africa's attention but also the attention of the international community. We hold the view that referring to the International Court of Justice is also a demonstration of our faith in the international community and in its institutions which have already tackled such cases, notably between African countries, and have contributed to finding honorable solutions. We believe that going to the International Court of Justice is a political act that shows the willingness to yield to the decision of an institution toward which we are committed.

So we do not at all believe that the existence of bilateral or African frameworks for the solving of a problem precludes the intervention of the International Court. Both should complement each other. [end recording]

Foreign Minister on ANAD, Conflict
AB301418 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 30 Dec 85

["Comment" by Ivorian Foreign Minister Simeon Ake following the reading of the final communique issued at the end of the meeting of the Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD] in Abidjan on 30 December — recorded]

[Text] As the communique indicates, the deliberations took place in a serene atmosphere and with a great desire for peace and a constructive brotherly dialogue. We met yesterday with the primary preoccupation of saving human lives and immediately stopping the hostilities. This was the first decision we made which was supported by the two parties involved. In order to give all necessary weight and authority to this decision, we considered it necessary to get the two heads of state of Burkina Faso and Mali to sign the statement.

President Houphouet-Boigny — a man of peace and dialogue who, like all his other colleagues is very much pained by the situation developing in this region — decided to immediately put a plane at our disposal to enable us to go to Ouagadougou and Bamako in order to obtain the signatures of his two colleagues of Burkina Faso and Mali. This was done during the night. We returned this morning, and I believe that instructions have been given so that the cease-fire may become effective and that it may be respected by the troops of the two parties involved.

I am anxious to specify that it was following the mission which the Ivorian defense minister and I carried out in Ouagadougou and Bamako in the night in the company of the secretary general of the ANAD that the heads of state of these two brotherly countries signed an official document that officially commits them. We therefore very formally deny all the exploitations that some people want to make in order to minimize all the important work we have done here for the past 24 hours in close collaboration with our respective heads of state.

Paper Responds to Criticism of Ties With Israel
AB272045 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French
26 Dec 85 p2

[Editor Marcellin Abougnan article: "Let There Be an End to This Noise"]

[Text] Ivory Coast has decided to reestablish its diplomatic relations with Israel. This is an act of absolute independence and sovereignty that admits no haggling, just as any independent state is free to choose its own development strategy. This is quite normal!

Since the October 1973 Israeli-Arab war known as the Yom Kippur War, Ivory Coast has sacrificed its dearest interests through solidarity with Egypt, an African country which was then at war. Thus for 12 years now, its oil bill has been heavy. The African Riviera — a futurist jewel which was to extend from Abidjan to Bingerville along the Ebrie lagoon — has not been extended. Above all, this solidarity has engendered a moral crisis resulting from the break-off which has made the Jewish state the incidental enemy of our country even though we were not in any way involved in this war. What is more intolerable is the desire of our Arab brothers — who are divided any time there arises the problem of their unity in the fact of a major problem — to maintain us in a state of dependence on them, they who are ready to denounce imperialism as if their own imperialism was not an imperialism.

As soon as the problem of construction of the Soubre Dam was raised, our Arab brothers threatened to withdraw their funds if Jewish interests were involved. These are the people for the sake of whom we willingly lost everything for the past 12 years! The day after the publication of the Ivorian-Israeli communique about the reestablishment of diplomatic relations, the Arab League (Radio France Internationale's 0630-0645 broadcast of 21 December 1985) expressed regret about this decision and announced that this has compromised the commitments jointly made by Af..a and the Arab world. On 22 December, Libya and Syria called for the "urgent meeting" of the Arab League to examine the consequences of the reestablishment of diplomatic relations with Israel by "certain African countries." Please, let there be an end to this noise concerning the affirmation of Ivory Coast's sovereignty.

Did our country ever complain about the flourishing development of all sorts of relations between the Arab world on one hand, and Europe and America which also maintain excellent relations with Israel? As a matter of fact, one does not need to be a soothsayer to affirm that it is Arab funds that are helping in the development of the Jewish state and that it is the Arabs themselves who are thoughtlessly offering to the Israelis the most destructive weapons for use against their own countries.

It is not Ivory Coast's desire to play this game. Israel is geographically closer to Libya than to our country. The Arab brinksmen should therefore settle the score directly with that country.

Some people in our subregion got a little agitated and said that they were astonished by this resumption of relations. We have an

evident truth to say to these "new masters": Ivory Coast is not dragging behind anyone.

LIBERIA

Trial of Alleged Plotters To Begin in February

AB301828 Paris AFP in English 1739 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Monrovia, Dec 30 (AFP) — The trial of five men who have have been charged with treason for their alleged part in an abortive coup in Liberia last month is to begin in February, the West African state's highest legal official said today at a news conference.

Solicitor-General Mcdonald Krakue said the trial would be "free, fair and speedy," and the press and public would be welcome to attend. The charges carry a maximum penalty of death.

The accused will be James Holder, president of the banned Liberia Business Caucus; Anthony Mcquee, an alleged coup participant; Robert Philips, a businessmen; and two other persons named as Harry Greaves, Jr and Lawrence Wills.

Further on Trial Peparations

AB310855 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] The trial of five persons charged with treason for their alleged complicity in the 12 November abortive invasion, has been slated for February 1986. Solicitor General McDonald Krakue, who disclosed this at a press conference in Monrovia yesterday, said this was necessary to afford the accused ample time to obtain lawyers to represent them at the trial. He also disclosed that the Justice Ministry would be assisted by Counselors Roger C. Steele, Vincent Boderick, and [name indistinct], in representing the Liberian Government at the trial.

The accused, Mr James Holder, president of the Liberia Chamber of Commerce, former Army Major Anthony McQuee, Robert Philips, Lawrence Wills, and Mr Harry A. Greaves Jr are meanwhile expected to appear this week before the Criminal Court A at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia. According to the indictment of the court, the five civilians were reported to have designed and [word indistinct] among themselves and other Liberian citizens and foreigners to meet at Camp Siaka police barracks in Sierra Leone where they underwent military training for the sole purpose of invading Liberia to overthrow the government by force and kill the head of state.

Meanwhile the Justice Ministry has released the names of nine Army officers enlisted in the armed forces of Liberia who, totally, lost their lives in the 12 November invasion.

Wanted Coup Plotter Turns Himself in to NSA

AB301806 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Mr Wreh Dollie, one of those declared wanted last week by the Liberian Government, is reported to have (?turned) himself in to the National Security Agency in Monrovia. The *SUNTIMES TODAY* newspaper reported that Mr Dollie, former managing director of the (Pakor) Paints Industries in Monrovia, was escorted to the NSA on Saturday by the Reverend Father Robert Kukpey of the Catholic Church. Mr Dollie was among 12 persons, including 7 former government officials declared wanted by the government for their alleged involvement in the November 12 abortive invasion.

MALI

ANAD Cease-Fire Observer Team Arrives

AB311014 Paris AFP in French 0954 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Abidjan, 31 Dec (AFP) — The observer team comprising member-states of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD] countries and Benin, arrived at the area of conflict on Tuesday to monitor the actual enforcement of the cease-fire agreement reached Sunday night between Burkina Faso and Mali which had been fighting since 25 December following a border dispute.

An ANAD communique issued in Abidjan on Tuesday morning said that the observer team, comprising 16 members, is headed by a senior officer of the Republic of Togo, Colonel Tepe Koffi, assisted by a senior officer of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Lieutenant Colonel Sao Samba.

The communique pointed out that in accordance with the joint government statement signed 30 December by presidents Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso and Moussa Traore of the Republic of Mali, these observers from the seven ANAD member-states, (Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo) and Benin, left Abidjan on Tuesday 31 December at 0500 GMT for the action zone.

Returns From ANAD Meeting

AB310725 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, who participated in the extraordinary meeting of the ANAD [Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement] Council of Ministers, returned home last night from Abidjan.

NIGERIA

Foreign Minister Meets With Libya's Al-Turayki

LD302135 Tripoli JANA in English 1846 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Bamako, Rabi Athani 17, Dec 30, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr al-Turayki, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau met in Bamako this morning with the foreign minister of Nigeria.

During this meeting, means of ensuring the imposition of ceasefire on the Mali-Burkina Faso borders were discussed. The ceasefire agreement was reached with the combined efforts exerted by the leader of the revolution and the Republic of [name indistinct].

Army Chief Says Coup Plotters To Be Punished

AB301551 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The chief of Army staff, Major General Sani Abacha, has said that normal punishment will be imposed on all those found to have been involved in the recent plot to overthrow the Federal Military Government. He told airport correspondents in Lagos today that there was no difference between planning a coup and executing it. Maj Gen Abacha said that the mere conception of a coup attracted punishment. He described the coup plot as unfortunate, coming from officers in whom the Federal Government reposed much confidence.

The chief of Army staff confirmed that the coup plotters had wanted to bomb some specific military installations in the country. Maj Gen Abacha said that the country's security was being beefed up to avert similar occurences in future.

Sokoto Governor on Good Relations With Niger

AB302150 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The Sokoto State governor, Colonel Garba Mohammed, has said that the country will not allow artificial borders and differences in official languages to mar the cordial relations existing between Nigeria and Niger Republic. He gave the assurance yesterday at (Birnin Konni), a border town between the two countries. The governor of (Harwai), Niger Republic, Alhaji Mohammadou (Tanja), told Col Mohammed that their forefathers had left a legacy of good relationship between the two countries which would ensure that the long-standing relations were maintained.

OAU Liberation Committee Meeting To Be Held in Lagos

AB301635 Dakar PANA in English 1631 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Lagos, 30 Dec (NAN/PANA) — Nigeria is to host the 45th session of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Liberation Committee scheduled for 27 Jan in Lagos.

The *GUARDIAN* newspaper today quoted the secretary of the National Committee Against Apartheid (NACAP), Mrs Funmilayo Anjorin, as making the disclosure.

Although the meetings agenda has not been released, it is believed that the need to assist the African National Congress (ANC) to intnesify the liberation struggle in South Africa and the protracted issue of Namibia independence would be discussed.

The paper also reported that the problem of non-payment of dues to the Liberation Committee, estimated at over 37 million U.S. dollars in arrears, would be discussed.

The Ministry of External Affairs will host the meeting in cooperation with NACAP. Nigeria was chosen as the committee chairman in July at its 44th session, held in Arusha, Tanzania, in recognition of her contributions to the liberation struggle in South Africa. The Liberation Committee, with is secretariat in Tazania, has a membership of 30 countries.

SENEGAL

Libyan, Burkinabe Ministers Arrive for Talks With Diouf

AB302046 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of Foreign Liaison of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, arrived in Dakar at 1645. He was welcomed by Ibrahima Fall, minister of foreign affairs. It has also been announced that Basil Guissou minister of external relations and cooperation of Burkina Faso has arrived in Dakar. Abd al-Salam al-Ali Turayki and Basile Guissou, respectively ministers of foreign affairs of Libya and Burkina Faso, therefore arrived in Dakar today. The Libyan foreign minister was welcomed by Ibrahima Fall, minister of foreign affairs. As for the Burkinabe foreign minister, he was welcomed by Medoune Fall, minister of the Armed Forces. During their stay in our capital, Turayki and Guissou will be received in audience by the head of state, President Abdou Diouf.

Diouf To Visit Saudi Arabia in January

AB301703 Paris AFP in French 1452 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Riyadh, 30 Dec (AFP) — Senegalese head of state Abdou Diouf will arrive in Riyadh on 12 January for a 3-day official visit to Saudi Arabia, it was learned from an informed Saudi source on Monday. Mr Abdou Diouf's discussions with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia will concern cooperation between Riyadh and Dakar as well as the efforts made so far to try to put an end to the war which has been going on for more than 5 years between Iraq and Iran, the same source added.

It will be recalled that Senegal is a member of the Islamic Peace Committee which was mandated by the Islamic Conference Organization since January 1981 to find a settlement to this

conflict.

According to political observers in Riyadh, the situation created following the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Ivory Coast and Israel on 18 December could be discussed by the two heads of state.

SIERRA LEONE

President Sends Messages to Mali, Burkina Leaders

AB311025 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] President Momoh has sent identical messages to Malian President Moussa Traore, and the leader of Burkina Faso, Captain Thomas Sankara, urging both leaders to do all in their power to ensure that the cease-fire holds to allow negotiations on the border dispute between their two countries.

ANGOLA

Sao Tome President, Delegation End Visit

MB300913 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Manuel Pinto da Costa, the president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, left Luanda this morning for his country at the end of a 2-day visit to the People's Republic of Angola. The Sao Tome president was seen off by his Angola counterpart Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Yesterday, President Manuel Pinto da Costa, accompanied by Afonso van Dunem, the Angolan minister of external relations, visited the central museum [words indistinct] where he saw a number of instruments used by the Angolan people during the struggle against Portuguese colonialism, and an assortment of war materiel captured from the racist South African army.

Upon signing the museum's guest of honor book, the Sao Tome president expressed the belief that there will no force capable of forcing our valiant people to bend their knees in the struggle against colonialism.

It should be recalled that the Sao Tome delegation which visited our country included President Manuel Pinto da Costa; Francisco Fortunato Pires, minister of justice; and Agostinho da Silveira Rita, secretary of state for planning.

UNITA Claims Plane Shot Down, Convoy Destroyed

MB301915 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] UNITA says its forces are holding up a three-pronged Angolan Government offensive in the course of which they have shot down a cargo aircraft and destroyed a supply convoy. In a statement issued in Lisbon, UNITA said its forces were fighting Angolan troops backed by Russians and Cubans near Luena in Moxico Province and Cuito Cuanavale and Savate in Cuando Cubango Province. It said UNITA forces have prevented the enemy from gaining ground.

15-Year-Olds Must Register for Military Service

MB300948 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] A statement from the Luanda provincial recruitment and mobilization center says that all youths who will be 15 years old by the end of December must register between 2 January and 28 February 1986. The registration will be done at municipal commissariats and is applicable to those who were born in previous years but who failed to register for various reasons. Accordingly, they must produce their identification, residence permit, educational or professional qualifications, five passport-size photographs, family address, and a statement from their school or employer. The statement notes that all those who fail to register at the recruitment centers will be penalized.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Gives Speech 27 Dec To Mark Year's End

MB280833 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Speech by Samora Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, at a reception for the party and state cadres to mark the end of the year in Maputo on 27 December -- recorded]

[Text] Comrade members of the Political Bureau and the Frelimo Party Central Committee, members of the People's Assembly Standing Commission, members of the Council of Ministers, comrades and friends, ladies and gentlemen:

It has already become a tradition among us to hold this end-of-the-year gathering to jointly mark the beginning of a new year. The year 1985 will be engraved in the history of our young country as a year of intense struggle and acute confrontation with our class enemies, as was clearly underlined by the 14th session of the People's Assembly. It was for all of us a difficult year. The victories achieved in 1985 in the political, military, and diplomatic fields have created more favorable conditions for new advances in 1986, particularly in the economic area. Our efforts to advance are contained in the guidelines of the 14th session of the People's Assembly and reflected in the state's central plan and general budget for 1986.

Our main task for 1986 will continue to be the defense of the fatherland and total elimination of armed banditry. All our people will continue with redoubled determination and devotion to fulfill their sacred duty, to respond to the fatherland's call and defend our land.

The economic front will also be of particular importance because it is only with production that we can satisfy the acute and increasing needs facing our people. What is more, the defense of the country itself depends on the economy. Military victory finds its foundation in an economy which is solid and correctly adapted to the demanding and specific conditions of a war situtation. A priority task of all our cadres in 1986 will be to strengthen and improve the link that should exist between defense and economic sectors.

The year 1986 will also be marked by the holding of the second general election. For the second time, from the Rovuma River to the Maputo River, the Mozambican people are going to elect their representatives under war conditions. The holding of general elections in 1986 is for all of us a challenge, a challenge to our ability, intelligence, and determination as well as of our ability to mobilize and organize. We should like to point out that all leading cadres and civil servants have a personal responsibility to implement the great and difficult tasks of 1986. It will be a year of accountability. The leadership is composed of the people who are present here, party and state leaders and cadres. We are the spark that must set fire to the forest to make a bonfire that shall be transformed into the people's hopes. We are the lamp that must illuminate our people's firm, vigorous, and determined steps. When the people cannot go further, they are not to blame.

It is not because they do not want to or cannot. It is because we cadres are unable to direct and guide them and clearly point out to them the tasks for each stage. The people look to us. The people have confidence in our creativity and knowledge to be able to lead them because they are aware that the leadership has studied, assessed, and pondered over every act and decision, its consequences, advantages, and disadvantages. At all times and circumstances, we must be worthy of this confidence bestowed upon us by the people.

To achieve this objective, we must work harder by employing all of our intelligence, talent, ability, and determination. We must pull out by the root the tendencies toward discouragement, frustration, and doubt that may result from the difficulties we face. We must pull out by the root tendencies which result from the lack of strong convictions and self-confidence. Everyone of you must overcome selfishness and individualism as well as the desire for comfort and privileges. Our only pledge should be to support the people and the revolution. Our pledge should be to make every one of our gains and victories benefit the Mozambican people as a whole, a national benefit. Let us continuously implement throughout our country the strategy and tasks defined by the Frelimo Party's Fourth Congress. In education and health, in factories for farm implements and in farming, in cement factories and construction, in railroads and harbors, in powerline building and roads, in fisheries and mines, in producing cotton and clothes, in military units, and in all sectors of our activity and on all fronts, let us make 1986 a year of a strong beginning to totally accomplish our tasks.

On behalf of the party and state leadership we would like to take this opportunity to salute all the leaders and cadres at various levels who have under the present difficult conditions maintained high morale and held our party's red flag very high for the fulfillment of our revolution ideals. We usually say that it is at a time of crisis that we know who are the real and best cadres. The difficult phase we are going through is a clear example of this, and it is with satisfaction and pride that the party and state recognize that most of our cadres have been carrying out their responsibilities accordingly. They have been consenting to sacrifices demanded by the situation. They have been maintaining their patriotic zeal and revolutionary firmness.

We are deeply certain that with everyone's effort, devotion, and skills we shall in 1986 also be able to lead the Mozambican people toward new and important victories.

Comrades and friends, ladies and gentlemen, in conclusion, I would like, on behalf of the party and state leadership, on behalf of my wife and on my own behalf, to wish everyone of you and your families all the best during the coming new year.

I now want to invite you all to join me in a toast to peace and progress of our fatherland, to the well-being and prosperity of the Mozambican people, to the health and happiness of us all and particularly of our wives and children. Happy celebrations to you all.

The struggle continues. Thank you very much. [applause]

More Than 2,000 'Armed Bandits' Killed in 1985

MB290704 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0605 GMT 29 Dec 85

[From the Armed Forces' "Voice of Combat" program]

[Text] Information gathered by our newsroom during 1985 reveals that more than 2,000 armed bandits were killed and more than 200 bandits were captured during combat actions or when they tried to reconnoiter our positions; and more than 50 armed bandit camps were destroyed. Many hundreds of metric tons of war materiel were captured, and approximately 3,000 people who lived under the yoke of the armed bandits were freed by our forces.

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. Botha Speaks on Reform in New Years Message

MB311209 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1208 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Cape Town, Dec 31, SAPA — The world at large demanded more reforms "virtually overnight" from the South African Government without contemplating the dissastrous results for the country, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said in his New Year message to the nation tonight.

Speaking from his official Tuynhuis residence, Mr Botha stressed that Christian values and civilised norms must be upheld in South Africa "with determination and a strong national will.

"I regret that attempts from various sources inside and outside our country are made to create chaos in some of our urban areas. I express a word of deep sympathy to those next-of-kin who lost family and friends as victims to the often barbaric attempts to make our country ungovernable.

"These conditions were exploited by some ruthless forces to create quite wrong perceptions of our country. But truth will prevail," Mr Botha said.

There were sufficient people of goodwill in all communities in the country to ensure that differences would be resolved.

"There are also a vast number of South Africans who will honestly admit the extent of reform already achieved over a period of years. But the world at large still demands more of us, and virtually overnight, without contemplating the disastrous results for our country."

All reasonable people knew that the door was wide open to the achievement, through negotiation, of a political dispensation which could satisfy the political aspirations of all the multicultural communities of South Africa.

"We have a duty, which we shall not shirk, to uphold Christian values and civilised norms in our country," Mr Botha said. "These values and norms include language and cultural rights, the protection of private property, the right to an independent judiciary and the freedom of religion and worship."

These and many other elements of peaceful co-existence had to be upheld "with determination and a strong national will."

Mr Botha commended the security forces for their "disciplined and devoted efforts" to maintain law and order and uphold the integrity of the country's borders.

"Without law and order and without the security of our borders our state cannot be prosperous and peaceful. Peace must be protected," he said.

"It must be protected by well-trained, determined men and women, equipped to carry out their duty."

This was not possible without sacrifice.

Referring to the government's policy of regional development and decentralisation, the state president said this had born fruit in several underdeveloped areas.

By their co-operation, the self-governing and independent national states had contributed much towards this goal and the country was witnessing the wisdom of this "co-operative policy."

When the diversity of economic activities was considered, South Africans could understand the growing importance of the country as a regional power, Mr Botha said.

South Africa, Mr Botha said, expected an economic growth-rate of three percent during 1986, "but we realise that this should be maintained before it can bring about really big and positive results."

The creation of work-opportunities and training remained an important task of the road ahead.

South Africa's inflation rate was too high, but by becoming more conscious of the need to save on the part of everyone, including the state, the fight against inflation could be fought effectively. A spirit of team-work and patriotism would ensure success, Mr Botha said.

"The steps taken during 1985 to promote our internal negotiation process must be continued. During the past year we have progressed with reform. I wish to thank the leaders of all the different population groups who participated and who still wish to take part in this process. During 1986 we must continue to act with a sense of responsibility and have mutual respect for eact other. We must not despair and build joyfully. Let us enter the new year with daring (waagmoed). Let us do it with faith in our creator."

Further on Botha Message

MB311222 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1221 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Cape Town, Dec 31, SAPA — During the past year terrorist forces, controlled and supplied by foreign sources, had tried to overwhelm South Africa and its people, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said tonight. In his New Years message, Mr Botha praised the SA police, the SADF and the SA Transport Service police for their dedication to ensure the safety of the republic.

"The year 1985 which is now coming to an end has in some ways been a turbulent one. On the international scene some small nations have had to defend their independence against military take-overs and organised terrorism.

"Even in our own fatherland we had to resist unprecedented interference in our domestic affairs. Terrorist forces operating and controlled from outside tried to overwhelm our country and its people. When we combat these forces some countries which should have known better, unashamedly, applied double-standards against South Africa. Unfortunately, we have to admit that this state of affairs is often fanned by the actions of unthoughtful and irresponsible South Africans. It is obvious that people in these circumstances show signs of doubt. I have understanding for the concern of South Africans of all races. I am also aware of the deep desire for peace by the majority of South Africans so that our country can enjoy prosperity and development."

Le Grange Bans Meetings of 74 Organizations

MB311250 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1247 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 31, SAPA — The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, has declared a six-month ban on gatherings inside buildings in 30 districts countrywide, mostly non-emergency areas, if they are convened by any of 74 organisations, including the United Democratic Front [UDF].

Only 10 of the districts where the ban is to be effective from today until June 30 next year are in the existing emergency areas. Twelve areas which have never fallen into the emergency areas, most of them in the Orange Free State and Eastern Cape, are included.

In an extraordinary government gazette released in Pretoria today, Mr le Grange said the prohibition was being declared under Section 46 of the Internal Security Act.

"Whereas I Louis le Grange deem it expedient for the maintance of the public peace, I hereby prohibit ... any gathering ... in any building situated within any magisterial district specified in Schedule 1 if such gathering is a gatheirng organised, convened or held or otherwise brought about by or under the auspices or with the assistance of any organisation specified in Schedule 2 ..."

Authorisation to hold meeting in the 30 areas could be obtained from himself or the local magistrate, the minister said.

The 74 organisations affected by the ban include the UDF, the Azanian Peoples Organisation, the Azanian Students Organisation, the Release Mandela Committee and the Detainees Parents Support Committee.

Existing emergency areas where the ban is effective are Albany, Alberton, Cradock, Fort Beaufort, Graff-Reinet, Kempton Park, Kirkwood, Port Elizabeth, Somerset East and Uitenhage.

Eight magisterial districts where the emergency was lifted earlier this year, but fall under the ban, are Adelaide, Alexandria, Bathurst, Bedford, Hankey, Jansenville, Sasolburg and Pearston.

The 12 areas which have been included in the emergency are Beaufort West, Bothaville, Hanover, Hofmeyr, Humansdorp, Kroonstad, Middelburg (Cape), Odendaalsrus, Oudtshoorn, Parys, Virginia and Welkom.

Winnie Mandela Released on Bail 31 Dec
MB311153 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1144 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Krugersdorp, Dec 31, SAPA — Mrs Winnie Mandela, arrested yesterday as she entered Johannesburg's boundaries in defiance of her banning order, appeared in the Krugersdorp Magistrate's Court today and was released on bail of R500.

It was her second appearance before a magistrate in just over a week in connection with ignoring the restrictions contained in her banning order.

The magistrate, Mr Chris Eksteen, set Mrs Mandela's next appearance for January 22 and said she had to abide by her banning order which states she is not allowed to enter the Johannesburg or Roodepoort districts.

Mrs Mandela, wife of the jailed African National Congress leader, has a house in Soweto which falls in the Johannesburg district.

It was not immediately known if Mrs Mandela, who had repeatedly stated her intention to return to her Soweto home, still planned to do so after Mr Eksteen's ruling.

She was arrested yesterday after flying into Jan Smuts International Airport near Johannesburg from Cape Town where she and family members had visited Nelson Mandela in prison over the Christmas period.

Jan Smuts does not fall into the Johannesburg area. Mrs Mandela was apprehended in a fracas with security police yesterday as the vehicle in which she and family members were travelling crossed into Johannesburg. She was taken to Krugersdorp police station and spent the night in a police cell.

Mrs Mandela was taken to the Krugersdorp black township of Kagiso after the court appearance. Kagiso falls outside the Johannesburg and Roodepoort magisterial districts.

Sources close to her said they did not know at this stage if she intended staying in Kagiso for any length of time. Mrs Mandela was at the home of a friend in Kagiso, the sources added.

Miners on Strike Over Arrest of COSATU Members
MB301839 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1833 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Witbank, Dec 30, SAPA — All 1500 miners at the Duvha open cast coal mine outside Witbank downed tools today in support of 26 Congress of South African Trade Union [COSATU] colleagues who were arrested by police over the weekend on charges of intimidation. A police spokesman confirmed the arrest of the 26 men on charges of intimidations arising from the consumer boycott in Witbank during the past two weeks. They were reportedly arrested while dancing and singing freedom songs outside the mine hostel.

Police Deny Durban Doctor Held for Bombing
MB310702 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] As the authorities continue with their investigations, security police have denied that a Durban doctor is being held in connection with the Amanzimtoti bombing. Earlier reports suggested that Dr (Veejay Ramlakin) and his wife, Sandra Africa, were among at least six people who are being held in connection with six bomb blasts in Durban in the past 6 weeks, but security polce have denied this, merely saying the couple is being held under the Internal Security Act.

The four others who are being held have been named as Ricky Dunpal Naidoo, Odway Msomi, and two medical students, Kwazi Sithole and Lulamile Gxati.

Police Report Unrest Incidents, Arrests, Arson

30 Dec Evening Report
MB301650 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1649 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 30, SAPA — The following is the 7 pm unrest report issued by the police directorate of public relations in Pretoria:

In Tembisa, on the East Rand this afternoon a mob of arsonists set a private delivery vehicle alight, causing extensive damages. In the same area, a mob of arsonists set the Nkombeni beer hall alight causing damage.

No arrest or injuries were reported.

In Soweto, (Witwatersrand) this morning, police used tearsmoke to disperse a stone-throwing mob.

No arrests or injuries were reported.

In the Mohlakeng residential area near Vereenging, on the West Rand this afternoon a mob of arsonists set a bottle store in the residential area alight causing damage.

No arrests or injuries were reported.

31 Dec Morning Report

MB310641 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0632 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 31, SAPA — Following is the police situation report on unrest to 8 am today:

Isolated incidents of unrest, consisting mainly of petrol bomb attacks and stone throwing occurred at various places yesterday evening and during the night.

At Lamontville near Durban a number of blacks stoned a bus. Two black women were injured. In the coloured residential area near Paarl East, a police vehicle was stoned. No one was injured, and a coloured man was arrested. In the black township Soshanguve near Pretoria, three black youths were arrested for the possession of petrol bombs.

At Mohlakeng near Randfontein, petrol bombs were thrown at the home of a policeman. In another incident a bus was stoned. No one was inured or arrested in either incident. At Cathcart white residential area, the Pepstores building was set alight by a group of blacks."

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency

MB310518 [Editorial Report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency and related topics:

Return to Schools

In a report in Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 30 December on the decision adopted at a meeting of the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee (SPCC) to have all black, colored, and Indian students return to school on 28 January, Tamara van Gelderen notes that the students will remain at school until March when "the Government and the Department of Education must acquiesce to certain demands," including the repair of damaged schools, the rescheduling of exams to March, the reinstatement of dismissed, forcibly transferred, or suspended teachers, the withdrawal of SADF troops from the townships, the lifting of the state of emergency, the recognition of democratically elected Student Representative Councils, and the unbanning of the Congress of South African Students. A spokesman for the SPCC said that " 'we are reasonable people and we are giving the unreasonable people in Pretoria three months to decide.' " If the demands are not met, " 'a new conference will be called and we will decide what action to take; we leave that to the imagination,' " he added.

Mourners Reportedly Assaulted

The paper also reports that a police spokesman said he "was unaware of any of the Krugersdorp mourners who attended the funeral of a 19-year-old youth being hit with sjamboks and batons." Reporters and mourners have alleged that a busload of blacks was stopped by police, who dragged them out of the bus and hit them with sjamboks and tear-gassed them. "In response to these allegations the spokesman said that if any person had legal cause for complaints they could file affidavits through existing channels and these would then be investigated."

CITIZEN on ANC Terrorism

In an editorial on the attacks in Rome and Vienna airports, *THE CITIZEN* says that South Africa also suffers from "the scourge of terrorism." However, there is a difference since groups such as the PLO and the IRA are generally "shunned by most countries," while the ANC, "which conducts terrorist attacks in South Africa, is regarded by many as a 'liberation' movement." The landmine explosion in Messina and the limpet mine blast in Amanzimtoti on one hand and the airport attacks on the other "were attacks of terrorism by organisations using violence in pursuit of political objectives." Comparing the statements issued by the U.S. and British Governments after the South African blasts and the airport attacks, the editorial says: "We challenge the United States and British Governments, and those that share their viewpoint, to say next time there is a terrorist attack in South Africa that they condemn the ANC unequivocally and by name." If they do not do this, "they stand condemned as a bunch of mealy-mouthed hypocrites."

CITIZEN on Foreign Pressure

An editorial in Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 27 December reviews foreign pressure on South Africa in 1985 which the United States, the EEC, and the Commonwealth seem to have felt was "Bash South Africa Year, as if they believed South Africa was in such turmoil that they only had to impose limited sanctions and threaten worse to come and South Africa would collapse abjectly and do as it was told." What the foreign governments and groups failed to realize was that South Africa "cannot be crushed into submission by diplomatic or economic intervention, and that it has the strength and wisdom to determine its own destiny." These foreign pressures will continue next year as the Commonwealth groups and the advisory committee set up by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz will begin work. While these two groups will be allowed to visit South Africa, "the time must surely come when Pretoria will have to toughen its attitude towards all countries telling us what to do," the editorial concludes.

Lebowa Survey

A report on a survey carried out by the anthropology department of the University of the North of public servants, secondary school teachers, and lecturers at teacher training colleges in Lebowa notes that the survey found that "black intellectuals of Lebowa are hesitant about one-man-one-vote for South Africa; see social segregation as synonymous with degradation; and reject, outright, the President's Council and Tricameral Parliament." The survey found fears that one-man, one-vote "would result in domination of all other blacks by either Zulus or Xhosas," and "a fair amount of support for the Government's reform program," while "total integration" was held up by many as the ideal society.

Sales in Cape

The paper reports that "many shops in the Cape Peninsula fared

much better over the Christmas period than they had expected and those selling food and toys seem to have done exceptionally well." Turnover is believed to have been up to 12 percent higher than it was for the same period last year.

P.W. Botha's Speech Previewed

Brian Stuart reports that State President P.W. Botha is "expected to deliver a 'watershed' speech on political reform" at the opening of the 1986 session of Parliament on 31 January. Discussing the possible topics the president could mention in his speech, Stuart says that he may announce "Black inclusion in the new 'General Affairs' Provincial administrations;" state the government's response to the President's Council recommendations on scrapping influx control; discuss the proposed opening of the economomy to all races; and clarify "the series of 'embryo constitutions' drawn up by Mr Chris Heunis's Department of Constitutional Development and Planning." It is also possible that Botha may comment on the U.S. advisory committee and the Commonwealth group in his speech, Stuart says.

Poll on Attitudes

The paper reports that a Gallup poll found "the outlook of South Africans generally has not changed over the past 12 months," "despite the economic crisis and escalation of urban unrest." The study, which was conducted by the Markinoor Research Group and sampled the attitudes of 1,000 whites and 800 urban blacks, found that "White South Africans are divided as to what 1986 will bring while Blacks are gloomy about prospects for improvement in the country." Some 53 percent of blacks expect 1986 to be worse than 1985, 14 expect it to be better, and 16 percent expect no change. Among whites, 40 percent expect things to get worse and 40 percent expect an improvement while 13 percent expect no change.

ANC Supports School Boycott

A report by Sipho Ngcobo in Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 30 December on the meeting on black education notes that "the SPCC has refuted a report in a Sunday newspaper saying that the African National Congress (ANC) does not back the school boycott. 'The ANC told us during our meeting with them (in Harare over Christmas) that it would support and abide by what the people decide here at home,' said an SPCC official."

Consumer Spending

Chris Cairncross reports that "consumer spending at the year-end has been lower than ever, according to early indications from major retailers." Turnover seems to have barely matched the 1984 levels. The depressed spending was, however, in line with company forecasts, "which generally held out little hope a Christmas spending spree would materialise." The forecasts also predicted that the hardest hit sectors would clothing and luxury items.

Western Cape Property Market

In another article, Cairncross notes that "the Western Cape residential property market has deteriorated to such an extent that barely 5 percent of estate agents in the area are making a living," according to the chairman of the Institute of Estate Agents, who also estimated that property prices have fallen by 20 percent in the past year and will continue to decline. However, large property companies in the Cape Peninsula "paint a more optimistic picture," saying that turnover is up 25 percent this year compared with 1984. Cairncross also says that the rental market is doing well, for "as long as the property market remains depressed, rentals are expected to command premium rates."

Survey on Business Prospects

Lawrence Bedford reports that a survey of conditions and prospects by the Bureau for Economic Research found "business conditions in the manufacturing sector are expected to be slightly better in the first quarter of 1986." Manufacturers expect improvement in sales and production volume. Manufacturers surveyed believed that the lower interest rates could improve the level of production, but the majority also believed that their stocks of finished goods were too high.

Reaction to Blackburn, Bishop Deaths

A report on reaction to the death of Molly Blackburn and Brian Bishop notes that although Blackburn's husband said "there were no 'sinister overtones' " surrounding the deaths, Bishop Desmond Tutu said: " 'One worries that one could almost say it came at too convenient a time for the other side.' " Murphy Morobe, acting national publicity officer of the United Democratic Front, said of Blackburn and Bishop: " 'Their record in the arena of anti-apartheid struggles is well known. We have always held them as close friends and as champions of human rights in SA.' "

BUSINESS DAY on Terrorism

In an editorial comparing the attacks on the Vienna and Rome airports with the deaths caused in South Africa by ANC bombs, *BUSINESS DAY* says that "there is no diffence whatsoever" between the two. Although terrorists may have grievances, "there is no wrong on earth that can justify" attacking innocent people. Noting the strong U.S. condemnation of the airport attacks, *BUSINESS DAY* says that this is the only kind of response possible. "Those nations that train and harbour terrorists in the name of some ideology or notion of freedom must, therefore, expect retaliation. That is why Israel is right to seek out relentlessly those who slaughtered innocent travellers last week. Israel deserves widespread support in this grisly task, as does South Africa in its identical endeavours against the ANC and those of our neighbors who give it support," the editorial concludes.

Fall of the Rand

Harold Fridjhom reviews the fall of the rand during 1985, noting that it "oscillated" and "vascillated." Although the Reserve Bank at times tried to support it, "events — economic and political — proved that a crutch from Pretoria was insufficient to give it any stability." It suffered from a lack of confidence. Reserves were a problem thoughout the year with the country having little liquidity. There was no help from gold. Before President Botha spoke to the National Party Congress on 15

August, leaks suggested he would announce changes. He did not and "world bankers pulled the carpet from under the rand. They apparently assumed continuing unrest, maybe unsurrection." As for ways for revitalizing the rand, Fridjhom notes that Botha will address Parliament at the end of January and is confident the rand will harden after that. However, if "we are treated with a Rubicon II the rand could ease, inviting controls from an administration which is still infected with a control virus." If the rand is to achieve respectability again, he notes, "it will need political will, reinforced by constructive monetary and fiscal policies."

Editorial Views Future Prospects

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English for 30 December comments in an editorial that the choice in South Africa in 1986 is between "evolutionary change in a society in which all have equal opportunity and revolutionary change to a radical socialist society." Africa needs its whites as much as it needs its blacks, the editorial says, "but this should not be construed as justifying the slow pace of reform dictated by South Africa's white masters." If South Africa becomes another African tragedy, the responsibility will be "more white intransigence and selfishness than it will be black radicalism and incompetence." "We still have a choice," the editorial concludes.

Meeting on Black Education

THE STAR reports that the national consultative meeting of 160 organizations meeting in Johannesburg decided on 29 December that pupils should return to classes on 28 January and gave the government 3 months to meet six demands: release of all detained students, pupils, parents and teachers; withdrawal of SADF from the townships; unbanning of the Congress of South African Students; reinstatement of dismissed and transferred teachers; lifting of the state of emergency; and recognition of democratically elected student representative councils. The meeting also decided that teachers should establish a single national teachers group, that parents should establish their own school committees, and that parents should not pay education fees or buy text books. In an accompanying article, *THE STAR* also reports that the opening day of the conference was marked by an ideological split between the multiracial Freedom Charter and the Black Consciousness Movement. One member of the audience criticized the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee for consulting only with the ANC and not also with the Pan-Africanist Congress or the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania. The 200 members of the Azanian Students movement, who attended the the first day of the conference, did not show for the second day when decisions were made, holding their own separate meeting in Soweto instead. Members of the Azanian Confederation of Trade Unions did not return to the meeting after being given observer status the first day.

Voluntary Curfew

THE STAR reports that the imposition of a voluntary curfew in December in Krugersdorp's Kagiso and Munsieville townships has resulted in no serious crimes or murders being reported for the month. Small groups of youths move about the townships at night ordering indoors anybody loitering in the streets. One resident was reported as saying "the community has behaved decently.

SOWETAN on New Year

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* for 30 December comments editorially on the "bloody bang" with which 1985 is ending and says "the truth is that the modern person, in a rather cowardly fashion, believes it is easier to dispatch those they disagree with through the barrel of a gun." But there have been Dark Ages throughout history and we cannot "throw up our hands in despair." We must tell ourselves that "we will perhaps never live in peace with one another, but that the cycle of such fierce violence must be broken at some point." "We hope that in 1986 the cycle will take a turn to the better," the editorial concludes.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Says Progress Made in ZANU-PF, ZAPU Talks

MB300847 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, last night told of his government's achievements over the last 12 months and its future plan. In a televised interview, Comrade Mugabe said a 5-year development plan, which will for the first time contain inputs from the ruling party, ZANU-PF, is due to be announced soon. Comrade Mugabe, who is the president and first secretary of ZANU-PF, stressed the need to bring a new infrastructure across the board, which will generate more employment opportunity. Although he agreed that more investment might be needed in the country's critical areas, Comrade Mugabe said this should be on the understanding that such investments should be regulated by the government.

Comrade Mugabe expressed concern over the ownership of the resources which are not yet in the hands of the people of Zimbabwe. He referred to the agricultural sector and noted that of the 4,000 commercial farmers in the country very few, if any, are nationals of this country. The prime minister also disclosed plans to establish a cooperatives bank to enhance facilities already available under the small enterprises development corporation and the agricultural finance corporation.

Comrade Mugabe made the disclosure in his postmortem on the agricultural cooperative movement in the country. Although he express satisfaction with the [word indistinct] and with the attitude displayed by the youth towards agriculture. Comrade Mugabe emphasized the need to avail the cooperatives of funds. The training of personnel and better technology are some of the areas to receive closer attention in making the cooperatives viable.

Comrade Mugabe once again referred to the unity talks between ZANU-PF and ZAPU and said some progess has been made. He assured the nation that efforts are being made by both sides to proceed towards unity, although there are some areas yet to be resolved. The prime minister also appealed to the nation to remain vigilant in order to thwart racist South African plans to end the progress in the country through its destabilization policy.

Comrade Mugabe expressed the hope that the Zimbabwean soldiers helping to crush the South African-backed MNR bandits in Mozambique will soon complete the task.

On the situation in southern Africa, Comrade Mugabe noted that the matter will be a subject for discussion during the Nonaligned Movement's summit to be held in Harare next July. He expressed optimism that the summit will produce an impact whose effect will be towards democracy in South Africa. The meeting will also lay an equal emphasis on the situation in the Middle East and in Central and Latin America, where blatant acts of invasion and aggression have been carried out by imperialist forces.

In answer to a question, Comrade Mugabe revealed that the Central Committee of ZANU-PF has approved the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation proposal to start an external service. He added that the delay in approving the project had been caused by poor planning on the side of the responsible authorities.

SAPA on Talks

MB300912 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0817 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Harare, Dec 30, SAPA — The ruling ZANU (PF) party and Dr Joshua Nkomo's PF-ZAPU have agreed on policy and ideology in their current unity talks and the only major disagreement remaining was that of leadership, the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, said last night.

Speaking in a television interview, Mr Mugabe, who is the ruling party's president and first secretary, said both sides had already agreed on the nature of the ideology and philosophy they would embrace.

"We all agreed that it would be socialism based on Marxism-Leninism. But we still differ on the fundamental issue of what forum this will be that will constitute the unity forum for ZANU (PF) and ZAPU," he said.

The two parties also agreed on the future poltical system they would have — a one-party state.

"I do not see any reason why there should not be unity at the end of the exercise," Mr Mugabe said.

White Farmer Killed in Matebeleland Province

MB301407 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1400 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] A white Zimbabwean farmer, Mr Mark James (Sommer), has been shot dead in the country's southern Matebeleland Province. The Harare government blames followers of opposition leader Joshua Nkomo for insurgency that has left at least 300 civilians dead, but Mr Nkomo's ZAPU party has denied the charges. Several farmers have been murdered over the past 3 years, forcing many others to flee from their ranches.